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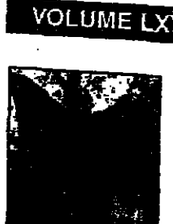
VOLUME LXVI, NUMBER 19981 THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1998 • TAMUZ 22, 5758 • 22 RABIA AWWAL 1419 NIS 4.50 (EILAT NIS 3.85)

AIR CANADA

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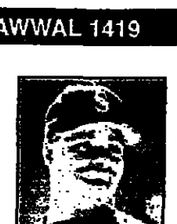
11 *Weekender*

Super boy!



13 *Travel*

Ein Gedi's enchanted gardens



20 *Sports*

Griffey slugs 38th, 39th

INDEX

Business 15
Food 12
Movies, TV, Crossword 19
Opinion 10
Weekender 11
Sports 20

Manbar sentencing today

Zichroni appeals against Strashnov's refusal to disqualify himself

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Tel Aviv District Court Judge Amnon Strashnov yesterday rejected the defense motion that he withdraw from the high-profile Manbar treason case, stating he would pass sentence on Nahum Manbar today.

"A successful career is built with much toil, diligence and sweat. Destroying it is possible with a blow of one hand and the breath of slander, a lie and deceiving words," Strashnov told the packed courtroom, after dismissing defense attorney Amnon Zichroni's request that he disqualify himself.

"A man's reputation, especially a judge's, is the most valuable asset he owns. I have preserved this asset and will always do so to the end of my days. No lawyer will trample on my reputation," he said, referring to the allegations of improper conduct on his part during the trial.

Zichroni asks Strashnov to leave trial, Page 2

Zichroni late last night appealed Strashnov's decision to the Supreme Court.

The court is to convene at 8 this morning to decide whether to order a delay in Manbar's sentencing until it can consider Zichroni's appeal.

Strashnov said in his decision that the defense's arguments to disqualify him are untruthful and illogical.

He denied meeting Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu or having any contact with him or receiving anything from him during the trial, noting the last time the two met was on February 25, 1997, at a session of the Knesset Law Committee.

Strashnov denied seeing attorney Pninat Yanai outside the district courthouse and said his relations with her were correct, as the relations between a judge and his intern should be.

"I don't intend to comment on the murky relations between the defense attorneys Yanai and Zichroni or all the other relationships Yanai had or didn't have," Strashnov said.

He said Zichroni's request to disqualify him should be rejected, if only because it was not made at the time the defense received the information it was basing the request on.

"It's hard for me to shake the impression that the disqualification request only came up after the conviction, to prevent me from ending the trial," he said.

Strashnov said the request was baseless, essentially a gossip item and not made in good faith. He said he is prepared to be questioned at any time if there is an investigation into the affair.

Commenting on Strashnov's statement, Zichroni said all his moves were for his client's good and made out of professional considerations.

"I'm a lawyer; my job is to convey a client's message. When you get certain material, you cannot ignore it. The only consideration is how to best serve your client.

"Sometimes the results are not good. But we don't act according to the results, but according to reality," he said.

Manbar, who was convicted of treason last month, yesterday asked the court's forgiveness and expressed remorse for making "an inadvertent mistake."

The prosecution is asking the court for a life sentence.

"I erred. I thought it was permitted to trade with Iran. It was a mistake. I went about my business like in other things, close to the edge, but I love Israel with all my heart, and if the judges think I've harmed the state, I ask for forgiveness," Manbar said.

He said he had entangled himself in other business affairs, due to his tendency to "walk on the edge" and had needed therapy for it.

Manbar pleaded that the court not "ruin my children's life because of a mistake I didn't intend to make."

In the hearing on Manbar's sentence, Strashnov said Netanyahu's calling for a harsh sentence to be imposed on Manbar after he was convicted was "unworthy."

Zichroni had sharply criticized Netanyahu at the time, calling his utterance "a vulgar interference" in the judicial process.

Prosecutor Dvora Chen explained that Manbar had not been arrested during the term of the late prime minister Yitzhak Rabin because there was not enough evidence against him at the time.

After the prosecution had made up its mind to press charges against Manbar, it needed Netanyahu's permission to reveal sensitive material. This was the reason for Netanyahu's involvement in the proceedings, she said.

Chen said Manbar's crime was perhaps the worst in Israel's criminal history and demanded the maximum sentence of life imprisonment.

Manbar was convicted of aiding an enemy state, having supplied Iran with material for mustard and nerve gas and equipment to build munitions plants for chemical warheads.

Manbar's defence team asked for a maximum seven-year jail sentence, ideally to include time served since his arrest last year.



Nahum Manbar sits in Tel Aviv District Court during the hearing on his sentencing yesterday. The court is due to hand down its sentence today if the Supreme Court rejects an appeal by attorney Amnon Zichroni against Judge Amnon Strashnov's refusal to disqualify himself.

(Yael Somekh/Israel Sun)

An unclear decision

ANALYSIS

BY HILLEL SOMMER

Judge Amnon Strashnov's decision to reject attorney Amnon Zichroni's motion to disqualify him reads more like a personal response than a dry court decision.

Strashnov listed Zichroni's allegations, denying any wrongdoing in each case. From the various allegations, Strashnov confirmed having only one conversation with attorney Pninat Yanai – regarding her ongoing dispute with Zichroni.

Strashnov categorically denied Zichroni's main points: He denied receiving material relating to the trial from Yanai, denied having met her outside the court building, denied having a relationship with her beyond the ordinary judge-apprentice relationship, and denied receiving any messages from the Prime Minister's Office regarding the trial.

If this the truth, Strashnov could not decide to disqualify himself, nor should he have done so.

In making the denials so absolute, however, he is exposing himself should any reliable evidence surface to the contrary; it is therefore highly likely such evidence does not exist. Strashnov's first decision reads like the denial of an innocent man.

Strashnov's second decision yesterday, though, is less understandable.

After he refused to disqualify himself and Zichroni announced he would appeal the decision, Strashnov should have, according to the Procedure Act of 1982, stopped the trial until the Supreme Court's final ruling.

The judge is permitted to proceed under these circumstances only if there is a "special reason" for doing so, and it does not appear that Strashnov had any such special reason.

The logic behind the requirement to stop the trial is simple. The damage which could occur if the trial proceeds with a judge who is eventually disqualified may be significant. The damage from a short-term delay, however, is minimal.

Since the defendant, Nahum Manbar, is the one requesting the delay and he is in jail anyway, there would be no apparent damage done by postponing the sentencing until a final decision is rendered on the move to disqualify the judge.

From a legal perspective, therefore, it is unclear why Strashnov decided to proceed.

Hillel Sommer is a lecturer at the Radzyner Law School, Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya

Sharon warns government will fall

By JAY BUSHINSKY

If the cabinet recommends withdrawing the IDF from 13 percent of the West Bank in a second redeployment and an additional one percent in the third, "this government will fall," National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon warned yesterday.

According to an associate, Sharon took this stand during a turbulent three-hour session of the inner cabinet, attended by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai and Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky.

He predicted that the coalition will be brought down by a Knesset vote of no confidence – not on the withdrawal issue, since it can expect support from the Labor Party on that score – "but on any other issue that may come up."

The tension reportedly occurred after Mordechai declared that he intends to raise any subject he wishes during future talks with Palestinian representatives.

Netanyahu cut in, saying Mordechai is only authorized to discuss the nature of the newly-designated Area D, which is to be handed over to Palestinian administrative control.

According to plans, the IDF, after withdrawing from Area D, would retain the right to re-enter it for security reasons. The Palestinians would also be barred from building in the area, currently comprised of empty land.

Sharon cautioned his colleagues against making any new decisions about the projected troop redeployment during his absence. He is scheduled to leave today on a 12-day trip to China and Mongolia.

"If you decide on anything while I'm away my position should be known to you in advance," he said. "I oppose any pullback that exceeds nine percent."

When Sharon described the agreements reached between Netanyahu and U.S. officials as "too foggy," Netanyahu tried to mollify him by explaining that the Americans do not want the Palestinians to lose face.

But this did not change Sharon's opinion, according to the associate.

"Here we are dealing with the problem of how to avoid an insult," Sharon reportedly said.

See SHARON, Page 3

PA might give Israel two or three meetings

By STEVE RODAN and news agencies

The Palestinian Authority is considering a US suggestion to hold one week of direct talks with Israel, but Chairman Yasser Arafat will not participate, PA officials said yesterday.

Instead, the talks will be headed by Mahmoud Abbas, secretary of the PLO Executive Committee, and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Officials said a date and location of the talks will be decided after Arafat returns from China today.

Asked in Beijing if he would resume talks with Israel, Arafat told reporters: "We are not against opening talks, but we are in need of results and not talks.

"It is clear and obvious [Israel is] trying to escape from implementing accurately and honestly what had been signed between both of us," Arafat said. "I am not asking for the moon."

Arafat declined to comment on any possible negotiations, saying: "I have no direct invitation to continue the peace process."

The head of the PA negotiating team, Saeb Erekat, said the US proposal for direct talks was raised by US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright during her meeting last week with Erekat and PA International Cooperation Minister Nabil Shaath.

"She said, 'The Israelis have something to say to you,'" Erekat said.

Erekat, who stressed that Arafat has not yet consented, said the US plan is to conduct one week of talks, which will include two or three meetings. After the meetings, he said, the Clinton administration will decide whether to release its bridging proposal for the implementation of the interim accords.

Erekat placed little hope that direct talks with the Israelis would produce an agreement. He said Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has no intention of continuing the Oslo process and is simply submitting new proposals to gain time.

See PA, Page 3

June CPI up 0.4%

By DAVID HARRIS

The consumer price index (CPI) rose a higher-than-expected 0.4 percent in June to 156.5, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday.

The rise in the CPI totaled 2.2 percent in the first half of the year, after ending the first quarter with no rise.

Housing prices have increased by 2.2% this year. Bureau economists said they expect inflation to end the year at 4% or slightly higher.

Full report, Page 15

Neeman: This is not an increase in taxes

Public to pay direct fees for health care

By DAVID HARRIS

From September 1, all residents will face a monthly fee for medical services plus additional charges for visits to doctors and hospital outpatient departments.

The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday narrowly approved the Treasury proposals, which are aimed at offsetting the funds' combined deficit, estimated to be NIS 1.4-1.6 billion.

The fees levied from the public are expected to rise NIS 350 million a year, with the Treasury adding NIS 450m. and the remainder coming from in-house efficiency measures, according to the plan.

Committee members voted 8-7 in favor of the plan, but in the wake of Shas abstaining, a revote will be held on Monday. However, committee Chairman Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) said the result is likely to remain unchanged.

Despite Ravitz's confidence, MK Yitzhak Cohen (Shas) said his party is still opposed to the fixed monthly payments.

During the various meetings in the Knesset over the last two days, Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman and coalition whip Meir Sheetrit (Likud) have been stressing the importance of this issue, even going as far as to suggest it is a vote of confidence in the government.

This left Shas in a difficult position, not wanting to vote against the government, but at the same time not wanting to support the reform.

Following the meeting, Neeman expressed his pleasure with the outcome, saying the decision was a major step towards reducing health fund debts.

"The health funds are in a bad situation and their financial difficulties must be dealt with," Neeman said. "This is not tax but a payment for services."

However, MKs from various parties accused the government of breaking its promise not to hike taxes.

"The government says if you pay for a service you aren't paying tax, but this is taxation from all points of view," said Labor's chief economics spokesman Avraham Shohat, who called on the public not to pay the new fees.

Medical community decries co-payments, Page 4

Labor is now seeking legal advice as to whether the new regulations will be in breach of the National Health Insurance Law.

"They [the government] don't like to use the word tax, but I say it is a tax," Ravitz said. "But it is a specific tax, unlike usual taxes, which go into a general pot, this will be spent on one particular thing - medical services."

While Health Minister Yehoshua Matza welcomed the decision, he said he is still far from happy.

"I will be happy when I see that it's possible to balance health funds' budgets, which isn't going to be easy," he said.

Proposed changes in health-care payments

Originally proposed in April, the Treasury's measures are:

- Every fund member would pay a *monthly sum*, to be determined by the funds, of a maximum of NIS 55 per household.
- Families would pay up to a quarterly maximum of NIS 160 for visiting specialists and outpatient departments.
- An NIS 20 payment to cover three months of visits to general practitioners other than one's own regular doctor.
- The price of prescription drugs would rise 30 percent.
- The poor would be exempt from various payments.
- The payments would differ marginally according to each health fund.

David Harris

NEWS
in brief

Bazak suffers from chest pains

The prime minister's spokesman, Shai Bazak, yesterday went to Shaarei Zedek Hospital's emergency room, complaining of chest pains. The 30-year-old Bazak, who befriended one of the chief protagonists of the Strashnov Affair, attorney Pninat Yanai, underwent a battery of tests and doctors found there was nothing wrong with him. He was discharged and returned to work.
Judy Siegel

Shoval takes over as ambassador in US

For the second time in the 1990s, Zalman Shoval yesterday assumed command of the Israeli embassy from Eliahu Ben-Elissar.

The carefully choreographed changing of the guard occurred just hours after Ben-Elissar departed to begin a short American vacation. Ben-Elissar will assume the ambassadorship in Paris in September.

Shoval addressed the embassy's staff soon after arriving, saying that "Israel stands before fateful decisions regarding its future, and the embassy in the US is on the front-line of Israel's foreign policy."

Shoval served as ambassador earlier in the decade until the 1992 election drove Likud from power.
Hillel Kuttler

Australian parliamentary report slams Israel

Israel's approach to the Middle East peace process was denounced yesterday as short-sighted and a tragedy in a strongly worded Australian parliamentary report just four weeks before a visit there by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. The report was made by a parliamentary delegation to Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Israel, led by Speaker Ian Sinclair.

"The delegation concluded that the current position adopted by the Israeli government on the peace process is very short-sighted," the report said.

The report also attacked Israel's handling of the Maccabiah bridge collapse, which killed four Australian athletes last summer.
AP

UN backs protest to Israel over Lebanon incident

UN Security Council members expressed serious concern yesterday over the wounding of an Irish UN peacekeeper and a civilian in south Lebanon and supported a strong protest lodged with Israel, council president Sergei Lavrov of Russia said. In a statement to reporters after council consultations on a number of issues, he said the injuries occurred when two mortar rounds exploded Monday near a position of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

"The members of the council authorized me to express their serious concern at that incident and over the safety of UN personnel in Lebanon. They also fully supported the strong protest which UNIFIL made to the Israeli authorities regarding that incident," he said.
Reuters

Arafat offers to mediate between Pakistan, India

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived in Islamabad yesterday en route home from China with an offer to mediate between Pakistan and India. Speaking to reporters upon his arrival at the military airport, Arafat said he would like to see Pakistan and India – the world's newest nuclear powers – reach an agreement on the protracted Kashmir dispute.

India and Pakistan have fought two wars over the Himalayan state which was split between the two countries when the British left the subcontinent in 1947 and created Pakistan as a homeland for the Muslims of the region. Pakistan and India fought a third war over Bangladesh or what was then East Pakistan.
AP

Haredi rally in support of Eliashiv canceled

A haredi rally planned for yesterday afternoon in Jerusalem's Mea She'arim neighborhood in support of Rabbi Yosef Shalom Eliashiv was canceled a few hours before the event on the instructions of the rabbi himself.

Eliashiv, 85, is one of the leading halachic authorities who ruled in favor of moving bones found during construction, thereby ending the six-month deadlock over building the extension of Route No. 1 in the capital's Pisgat Ze'ev neighborhood.
Amy Klein

Zichroni asks Strashnov to leave trial

By MICHAL YUDELMAN



Amnon Zichroni in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday. (Yael Somekh/Israel Sun)



Judge Amnon Strashnov (Yael Somekh/Israel Sun)

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's spokesman, Shai Bazak, allegedly told Pninat Yanai, one of Nahum Manbar's defense attorneys, that the government had an interest in exposing the Manbar affair to show that prime minister Yitzhak Rabin had kept it in the dark, due to Manbar's relations with the Labor Party.

This was one of the details revealed by Attorney Amnon Zichroni, who asked Tel Aviv District Court Judge Amnon Strashnov to withdraw from presiding at the Manbar treason trial.

Zichroni's request is based on the alleged close relations between Pninat Yanai, who served as part of the defense team with Zichroni for a time, and Strashnov. Zichroni also alleged there were contacts between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's office and Strashnov.

Bazak told Yanai half a year ago that Manbar would be convicted, *Zichroni told the court. Bazak also* told Yanai, with whom he is friendly, of the close relations between the Prime Minister's Office and Strashnov's office.

Parts of Zichroni's request derive from the statement submitted by Yanai's former boyfriend, Ziv Chen, to whom she had given details about the case, and long-distance telephone conversations between Yanai and Manbar's wife Francine, who tape-recorded the calls. These conversations included alleged details of Yanai's relationship with Strashnov and of her talks with him about the Manbar case.

Zichroni said Yanai told Francine Manbar she had talked to Strashnov after the conviction and hinted to him about a conspiracy. According to Francine Manbar, Yanai told her after the conviction that Netanyahu called Strasnov's office a number of times, and that she had learned this from Bazak.

Zichroni also said he has a statement by Francine Manbar saying Strashnov called Yanai and asked to meet her in a Jerusalem hotel 10 days before he gave Manbar's verdict. Immediately after that meeting, Yanai called Francine Manbar and told her she had spoken to the judge about the trial.

The recorded conversations also include details of a trip Yanai took to China, together with a witness for the prosecution, to bring back a witness for the defense, behind the back of Zichroni, who had asked her not to go. Yanai gave the material she got from the witness in China directly to Strashnov, although she knew this was forbidden. This was after Zichroni had fired Yanai, though she continued working for Manbar independently at Manbar's request.

"How are we to blame if she deceived you?" interjected Strashnov at this point.

According to Chen's statement, after Manbar's conviction Strashnov called Yanai and asked her to join him at New York University, where he was going to spend a six-month sabbatical. At this point the judges started joking, and told Zichroni he was lowering the debate to a ridiculous level.

Zichroni told the judges that according to Chen, Yanai showed him intimate notes from Strashnov and told her former boyfriend the judge courted her and tried to have sex with her when she was his intern.

Zichroni also said Yanai tried to incite Manbar against him after he had fired her from the defense and told Manbar Zichroni was working for the Mossad. At one time, she even recommended that Manbar fire Zichroni.

During the long and stormy debate it transpired Yanai had told Zichroni she had a security clearance, although she didn't. Zichroni told the court that when she asked him to employ her in his office, he asked her whether she had a security classification and she said she had.

At this point Judge Shelly Timen said, "How could she, she didn't even serve in the army." Zichroni replied he found out later she had no security clearance and that she had undergone a special examination by security bodies and obtained clearance in an unexplained way.

Zichroni also told the court he had been reluctant to employ Yanai, mainly because she had just completed an internship in Strashnov's office.

Zvilli backtracks from implicating Netanyahu

By LIAT COLLINS

MK Nissim Zvilli (Labor), the first person to publicly break the Strashnov Affair, yesterday backtracked on his implication that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu had been involved in trying to influence Tel Aviv District Court Judge Amnon Strashnov in the Nahum Manbar treason trial.

He did not, however, apologize for having raised the issue in a parliamentary question to the premier, despite a court gagging order on the case.

Zvilli said after Strashnov's unequivocal public denial that he had had any contact or conversations with the prime minister that he sees "the matter as closed." "I'm not prepared and don't want as a citizen and MK to throw any doubts on the credibility and integrity of an Israeli judge," he said.

The Likud immediately issued a statement calling on Zvilli to apologize for implicating the prime minister "and falsely blaming both him and Judge Strashnov."

Zvilli said he had done his duty as an MK to investigate and expose what he thought was a possible perversion of justice by the prime minister. He said he still considered his sources reliable.

Likud spokeswoman Ronit Eckstein noted that Zvilli had said at the outset of the affair that he would be happy to admit having made a mistake, "and we expect him to do that," she said. "Zvilli broke all the rules of the game in the political world, violated a gag order and mobilized on behalf of the traitor Manbar — only to hurt the prime minister.

"In Zvilli's period as Labor Party secretary-general, his party suffered the most serious blow [losing the elections], and to save himself from total defeat and out of despair he chose to stir up rumors which proved to be lies," Eckstein said.

Likud ministers put out a statement yesterday saying they agreed they "should not remain silent in face of the rumors and lies spread by senior opposition members, led by MK Nissim Zvilli, in violation of High Court gag order."

Naveh: PM never meddled in Manbar case

By MICHAL YUDELMAN

Cabinet Secretary Dan Naveh yesterday dismissed allegations that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu meddled in the case of Nahum Manbar, who was convicted of treason last month, or that there is any fear of an inquiry into Netanyahu's involvement.

Naveh, who spoke to Army Radio, was referring to Manbar's defense attorney Amnon Zichroni's allegation that Netanyahu and Naveh were in touch with presiding Tel Aviv District Court Judge Amnon Strashnov during the trial.

Manbar's brother Zvi, who spoke to reporters outside the courtroom yesterday, said he believed Netanyahu wanted to turn Manbar into a scapegoat to cover up Israel's sales to Iran, which violated the US arms embargo on that state.

Zvi Manbar said that convicting his brother enabled Netanyahu, who was under pressure from the US over the violation of the embargo, to point an accusing finger at someone else.

"He didn't tell them the military industries did it with full state approval but blamed it on Manbar," he said.

Manbar told the reporters who crowded around him as he came into the courtroom "I'm innocent and I'll prove it."

Police checking who broke court ban

By DAVID RUDGE

Police continued to collect written material and details of statements yesterday as part of an investigation into whether anyone violated the publicity ban on what has become known as the Strashnov case.

The ban was imposed by the High Court of Justice on details of the petition, lodged by Nahum Manbar's lawyer Amnon Zichroni, which was apparently aimed at securing a retrial for his client.

The court on Tuesday lifted the publicity ban after details of the petition were leaked. The police investigations department was instructed by Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to carry out an inquiry, despite the court's subsequent decision to lift the blackout.

Senior police sources revealed yesterday that the process of gathering material would continue for several days before any decision would be taken about whether to investigate any individuals in connection with the matter.

In the meantime, the State Attorney's Office has yet to decide whether to instruct the police to carry out a separate investigation into the allegations made in the petition by Zichroni and the subsequent denials and counteraccusations.

The sources said that the police were not involved in this aspect of the case at this stage and that any decision on the matter would be taken by the State Attorney's Office.

Former police inspector-general Assaf Hefetz said yesterday that the police should be cautious about opening an inquiry into the allegations raised in Zichroni's petition and the counterclaims.

"It is unnecessary to be swept along by the media, which usually presents matters in black and white terms, [wait and] see what evidence the state attorney has... I don't think that the police has to volunteer to get into this matter," Hefetz told reporters.

District court apprenticeships don't come easily

By GIL HOFFMAN

To get an apprenticeship with a district court judge like Amnon Strashnov, Pninat Yanai would had to have earned high grades in law school, be very persistent, or have good connections, Ricki Olmert, head of administration of the Bar-Ilan University Faculty of Law said yesterday.

Competition is fierce for prospective lawyers, who normally do a one-year internship after completing seven semesters of law school. Some 1,200 new lawyers – a record – were admitted to the Israel Bar Association this past May.

Most law students begin looking for an apprenticeship in their second year of law school, Olmert said. According to Olmert, the best students usually try to get posts at the Supreme Court, but ultimately students choose a place that best suits their interests.

While Bar-Ilan and the Hebrew University do not help place their students, other law schools have placement offices. The law college where Yanai studied, which has since closed, was affiliated with Bar-Ilan.

Hillel Sommer, a lecturer at the Radzyner Law School Interdisciplinary Center of Herzliya, said apprentices usually write memoranda and drafts of decisions, but each judge decides how much responsibility he or she wants to delegate.

Sommer said judges often work alone with apprentices, which, he said, "creates an atmosphere where everything is possible."

Another lawyer recalls arousing the judges' ire

By HAIM SHAPIRO



Attorney Yoram Sheftel. (Isaac Harari)

If anyone knows the dangers a lawyer might face by accusing a court of being biased, it is Tel Aviv attorney Yoram Sheftel.

He is the man who in February, 1987, charged that the trial of John Demjanjuk, who was accused of being "Ivan the Terrible," a sadistic Nazi prison guard, was a "show trial," in the tradition of those held in Moscow under Stalin.

Sheftel recalled during an interview that he levelled the charge on the second day of the trial, which was held at Jerusalem's Binyenei Ha'uma and broadcast on national television.

In the charged atmosphere of the courtroom, spectators screamed insults at him, including "kapo" and "Nazi." Demjanjuk was convicted of crimes against the Jewish people and sentenced to death by the Jerusalem District Court in 1988. But the conviction and sentence were overturned by the Supreme Court in 1993, and Demjanjuk went free.

Sheftel said yesterday that his charge was only publicly justified five years after he made it, by former Supreme Court justice Haim Cohn.

After he retired, Cohn said that the Demjanjuk trial had been a "spectacle," a term which Sheftel said in legal terms meant a show trial.

Sheftel said that after he had made his accusation, many judges called him into their chambers, patted him on the back and shook his hand to congratulate him for his bravery in standing up to the court and the crowd of hostile spectators.

"I never felt it caused me any damage. It only brought me respect for my courage," Sheftel said.

Regarding the charges brought by attorney Amnon Zichroni against Tel Aviv District Judge Amnon Strashnov, Sheftel said that if there is any basis to what Zichroni is saying, then he not only has just reason to raise the issue, but a sacred duty.

The basis for bringing such charges is relative, Sheftel said. It does not mean proof beyond a reasonable doubt, such as one would need for a conviction in court, but that which an average jurist would find reasonable.

However, Sheftel added, in this particular case, based only upon what he had read in the media, Sheftel doubted there is a reasonable foundation for Zichroni's allegations.

According to the media accounts, Sheftel said, it appeared that Strashnov's only proof was the statement of a person who had been described as being of doubtful mental stability.

To Steve Brenner

Our deepest condolences
on the passing of your

Mother ז"ל

Israel Oceanographic & Limnological Research

With deep regret, we announce the death of our dear

GEORGE ELLIOT

and extend our deepest sympathy to his family, here and in Canada.

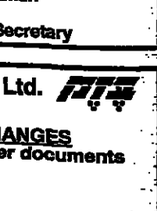
The funeral will take place today, Thursday, July 16, 1998, at 6 p.m., at Kfar Daniel.

Members of Kfar Daniel

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Notice to Shareholders of The Jewish Colonial Trust Co. Ltd.

On May 12, 1998, the Board of Directors of the company passed a resolution, authorizing an interim dividend of approx. NIS 15 m., and on July 12, 1998, the Directors decided that the dividend should be 1.45 agorot per share, this amounting to a total of NIS15,071,600. The determining date for receipt of the dividend is July 26, 1998, and the EX-day is July 27, 1998. This dividend will be paid on August 9, 1998.

The Directors also decided to distribute an interim 1998 dividend from the 1998 profits, amounting to 0.48 agorot per share, this amounting to a total of NIS4,989,219. The determining date is July 26, 1998, and the EX-day is July 27, 1998. This dividend will be paid on August 9, 1998.

The company will deduct tax from distributed dividends, as required by law. Owners of tradable shares are asked to submit to the Bank Leumi Trust Company confirmation that tax should be deducted at source. Holders of registered shares are asked to apply to the J.C.T. Co.

Such applications should be made by July 22, 1998.

By Order of the Directors
Amon Argaman
Auditor
Company Secretary

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BEZEQ Israel Telecommunication Co. Ltd.

Tender 47/98/806/0

SECURED DIALING TO BEZEQ EXCHANGES

including an option, as detailed in the tender documents

The following general conditions apply:

1. Preconditions:
   (a) Compliance with all legal requirements regarding the keeping of accounts, registration as an authorized trader, any other legally required registration, the holding of the necessary licenses and compliance with standards.
   (b) The provision of a guarantee, ensuring fulfillment of the work covered by the tender, as detailed in the tender documents.
2. The tender documents can be obtained from the Purchasing Unit of the Tenders and Orders Department, Room 609, 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem, Tel. 02-972-25395615, Monday to Thursday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
   The documents will be supplied on presentation of a receipt, showing payment of NIS 1000.
   * In Israel, payment should be made into Bezeq's account number 5-311757 at the Postal Bank.
   * Overseas participants should credit Bezeq's account number 12-901-97633/64 in the main Jerusalem branch of Bank Leumi.
   This sum is non-returnable.
   The receipt and details of the bidder, including registered trader's number, can be faxed to 972-2-5378113. Receipt of a fax can be confirmed by telephoning 02-5395615.
3. Bids should be in the tenders box on 15 Rehov Hazvi, Jerusalem, not later than 6 p.m. on September 1, 1998.
4. Bezeq does not undertake to accept the lowest or any bid, or to place the entire order with one bidder.
5. Bids submitted by fax or telegram will not be considered.

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Honored guest

Ashdod Mayor Zvi Zilker (right) shows SLA Commander Gen. Antoine Lahad (second from right) an aerial picture of the city, during Lahad's visit to City Hall yesterday. More than 120 senior South Lebanese Army officers and leaders of communities in the security zone were visiting Ashdod as part of a three-day tour of Israel. Senior military sources said the visit was part of ongoing activities to strengthen ties between the SLA and residents of the zone with Israel. (Text: David Rudge; Photo: Tsafrir Abayov)

Gov't to follow Assad visit to Paris

By JAY BUSHINSKY and news agencies

If Syrian President Hafez Assad's upcoming trip to Paris results in Syria's consent to resume negotiations with Israel "we will be ready," Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said yesterday.

Israeli interest in the Assad visit, however, centers on two issues: the possibility that the Syrian leader will let Lebanon accept Israel's offer to evacuate the security zone north of the Israeli-Lebanese border in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 425, and expectations that President Jacques Chirac will elicit new information about the whereabouts of fugitive Nazi Alois Brunner.

"We are following Assad's talks with French leaders with interest," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Aviv Shir-On.

A senior source said talks were held between Israeli and French officials on the eve of Assad's trip to France and further deliberations will take place after he concludes his visit.

In an interview with France's Channel 1 television before leaving Damascus, Assad warned Israel's Western friends that many countries would suffer if the Middle East does not achieve peace. "The peace process does not concern Syria alone but the whole world. If we accomplish nothing, wars will flare up and will spill over into many countries in direct or indirect ways," Assad declared.

But, for the first time Assad suggested outright his willingness to meet Netanyahu if Israel withdrew from the Golan Heights. "Once peace is established, it is completely natural that people should talk to each other. Otherwise we would not be realistic. If the problems are solved, relations would be normal," he said.

But he slammed Netanyahu for hindering the peace prospects, saying his insistence on starting peace talks with Syria from zero meant that there could not be peace.

"We are the ones who advanced the peace process, we got results, we will not restart talks except from where we left them. If [Netanyahu] continues with this position, there will be no peace. Syria will not offer Netanyahu a part of its lands. We do not want to do anything which could anger our people and create an internal conflict in our country," he said.

"[Netanyahu] rejects the rules on which the peace process is based – peace in return for land," Assad said. "Netanyahu says he wants peace for peace which means he wants peace and to keep the land."

Assad's three-day trip to France, which begins today, will be his first visit in 22 years. He will meet President Jacques Chirac today and Friday and Prime Minister Lionel Jospin separately.

Asked if he would allow a French investigating judge to visit Syria to seek information on Brunner, Assad said: "Nobody has told me that he is in Syria. And why should Syria care about this person?"

Brunner is blamed for the deaths of 130,000 Jews from Germany, Austria, France and Greece. Nazi trackers place Brunner in Syria under the alias of Georg Fischer.

Brunner was placed under formal investigation by France in 1988 for crimes against humanity. France asked for his extradition and wants a French investigating judge to go to Syria to seek information. Syria has refused. "I wonder how I, while in Syria, do not know his [Brunner's] whereabouts, while the French judge does," Assad said.

Head of Russian intelligence to meet Mordechai

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and JAY BUSHINSKY

The head of the Russian counterintelligence and anti-terrorism agency is to meet with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai today in Tel Aviv and will reportedly discuss Russian technology transfer to Iran.

It is expected that they will also discuss cooperation between Israeli and Russian intelligence agencies.

Defense officials said Lt.-Gen. Nikolai Kovalyov, director of the Federal Security Service, and other members of his delegation are to hold a working meeting this morning with Mordechai, but gave no other details.

Kovalyov is here as a guest of the General Security Service, a government official said.

"This is one of the subjects about which silence is preferable," the aide said, hinting that there is more to the FSS chief's presence here than meets the eye. "In any case, it is a positive development."

In the course of his stay, Kovalyov also will confer with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky. He will also reportedly meet Mossad head Ephraim Halevy.

Russia has denied that it has been helping the Iranians develop long-range missiles, but the US and Israel insists this is the case. Sharansky has been delegated as the government's point man in discussing this issue with American and Russian officials.

Kovalyov and his delegation are in Israel for a one week, unofficial visit.

It is thought to be the first time a Russian spy chief has ever visited Israel.

Mordechai defends the draft - for Druse

Exactly one week after Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai gave a detailed response to Labor Party leader Ehud Barak's draft bill and explained why the haredim need not be drafted into the military, he found himself explaining why the Druse should continue to do compulsory service.

The issue was raised in a bill by MK Ahmed Sa'ad (Hadash) calling for exemption from service for conscientious objectors. Sa'ad said many young Druse do not want to serve in the IDF because they consider themselves Palestinian.

Mordechai said Israel cannot afford to allow the decision to serve in the IDF to become one for private individuals.

"Israeli citizens have rights, but also obligations, and a basic duty of a citizen living in this country is to his people and state, through compulsory service or reserve duty, to defend the country and its values, protect its residents and bring about a situation in which they can prosper in the country of which they are citizens," Mordechai said.

Although the Arab MKs voted with the government last week in order to defeat Barak's bill and others calling for an end to large-scale exemptions for haredi yeshiva students, the coalition did not respond with a similar gesture and Sa'ad's bill was defeated 25-9.

Smoking ban declared legal

Mordechai said yesterday that an inquiry by the IDF Judge Advocate General had shown than an order by a battalion commander to ban smoking on base was a legal one. The commander sent two soldiers to military jail for contravening the order.

Answering a parliamentary question by MK David Tal (Shas), Mordechai said although the commander had determined stricter rules on non-smoking than the IDF regulations demand, the order was legally binding.

He said the punishment of one of the soldiers had been reduced from a 21-day sentence to a 10-day sentence and the other soldier has not served his jail sentence.

Syria being monitored closely

"The defense establishment is strictly monitoring military developments in Syria and Syrian efforts to become equipped with advanced weapons in different fields, including anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons," Mordechai told the Knesset yesterday in answer to a question by MK Michael Nudelman (Yisrael Ba'aliya).

AT THE KNESSET

BY LIAT COLLINS

"Clearly the purchase of advanced weapons in these fields increases the military threat on the Syrian side towards Israel," he said, adding that the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee is being fully updated on the developments.

On Tuesday the committee was told that there is no concrete evidence that Syria intends to launch a war on Israel and that it prefers the diplomatic option for the present.

Bill to protect suspects privacy passes reading

The Knesset passed first reading of a bill by MK Tzvi Weinberg (Yisrael Ba'aliya) which would ban the publication of the name of suspects before they have been indicted or had their remand extended, unless they themselves ask for it or their status demands the public be informed.

He said in many cases, a person detained and brought before a judge is found to be entirely clean but the publication of his detention can blacken his name.

The bill, supported by the government, passed the reading by 22 to four.

VAT exemption bill passes

The Knesset this week passed final reading of a bill by MK Yuri Stern (Yisrael Ba'aliya) under which foreign residents would not have to pay VAT for purchases and services relating to their participation in trade fairs and exhibitions here.

Stern said the bill is an effort to encourage foreign companies to participate in such events and promote trade ties and tourism. He said it also is aimed at ensuring VAT returns for Israelis at shows and exhibitions in Europe.

MKs criticize Assi Dayan

Deputy Education and Culture Minister Moshe Peled, in a speech in the plenum yesterday, called on filmmaker Assi Dayan to return the prize money he had received from the ministry Monday following his comments last week in which he called Jerusalem "the screwed-up city" and said that the prime minister should "Go to hell!"

"Where is your artistic integrity?" Peled asked.

MKs of all political persuasions from Nissim Dahan (Shas) to Amnon Rubinstein (Meretz) condemned Dayan, whom Avner Shaki (National Religious Party) called: "The bad boy of Israeli cinema."

Controversy over deputy speaker

A dispute has broken out between the coalition and opposition over a rotation agreement for a position as Knesset deputy speaker.

Apparently there was a verbal agreement between Labor whip Ellie Goldschmidt and the heads of the two Arab factions that at the end of the summer sitting this month Labor MK Ephraim Oshaya would vacate this position in favor of one of the Arab MKs. These would be the first time there would be an Arab deputy speaker.

However coalition and Likud whip Meir Sheetrit is objecting, claiming that the Arab MKs did not stand by their promise to support the appointment of Tsomet whip Eliezer Zandberg in this position when it came up a few months ago.

He said has no objections to the appointment of a deputy speaker from the Arab parties, as they claimed, "[but] unfortunately, some of the members of the Arab parties did not abide by the agreement made," Sheetrit said.

HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

By ORLY AHARONI

New affair

"This is one of the biggest scandals in the history of the state," declares *Ma'ariv's* Yosef Lapid, referring to the Manbar-Strashnov affair, which has caused an unprecedented stir since the High Court of Justice lifted the publication ban on its details.

Lapid writes that it involves all the elements of a big scandal: politics, espionage and money.

Yediot Aharonot's Ron Ben-Yishai writes that the allegations are so severe that the attorney-general will have to conduct an investigation as soon as possible. "No compromise in such an affair is possible," he writes. "The justice system is too valuable for someone to shed its blood without having substantial evidence."

Moshe Negbi agrees that an investigation is vital in this case. "Justice must not only be done but also be visible," he wrote in *Ma'ariv*.

Commentators specifically address MK Nissim Zvili's accusation that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu intervened in the Nahum Manbar trial.

Ma'ariv's Shalom Yerushalmi does not doubt that Netanyahu will find his way out of the entanglement, but is puzzled why the prime minister always gets himself into these situations.

Emuna Elon in *Yediot* is certain that Netanyahu has nothing to do with this affair and criticizes those who are persistent in blemishing his reputation. "They [the accusers] will not wait for the results of the investigation, when the current unchecked state of the 'Strashnov affair' can help them undermine the credibility of the terrible Netanyahu who stole away their country," she writes.

"It is clear that the stain on the justice system, not only on Netanyahu, will not be immediately removed," writes Ben-Dror Yemini in *Ma'ariv*.

Ma'ariv's Chemi Shalev concludes that this case can severely hurt the legal system if the allegations will prove to be true.

"Only a state investigative committee will be able to fill the black hole that has unexpectedly gaped open in our image of a state seeking law and justice," he writes.

A big step

Commentators expressed their opinions on the improving status among the nations of the Palestinians, in contrast to Israel's deteriorating reputation.

Oded Granot, in *Ma'ariv*, refers to the unique status that the United Nations has granted the Palestinians, stating that "it is an additional small step for [Palestinian Authority Yasser] Arafat, but a big step for the Palestinian state on the way."

Granot attempts to draw the government's attention to the fact that the negotiations over the second redeployment may by stuck, but the Palestinians are getting stronger. "The Palestinian train has left the station a long time ago, it is riding full steam ahead, and nothing can stop it."

Who's guilty?

A year after the Maccabiah bridge disaster claimed the lives of members of the Australian team, Ana Isakova of *Ma'ariv* protests against what she terms a "find-the-guilty-party game."

She criticizes the process in which responsibility for mishaps slides down to the lower levels and those truly responsible get away from punishment.

"He who stands at the top of the responsibility ladder should go home," Isakova writes.

SHARON

Continued from Page 1

"But in reality our discussions are about the state's actual survival."

Sharon criticized the way in which Israeli officials sought a meeting with Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat or one of his deputies.

"We, Israel, are the ones who are giving something to the Palestinians," he said. "Instead of Arafat asking for a meeting with us, we are begging him to meet us so that he can receive 14 percent of the West Bank."

He termed this "a strange situation.'

Mordechai's bureau called the PA to request a meeting between him and Arafat, but the Palestinians suggested that he see Arafat's deputy, Mahmoud Abbas.

However, neither a date nor a venue has been set for a Mordechai-Abbas meeting.

A senior government source said there is a "certain agreement" between Israel and the US about the third redeployment and an American "bridging proposal" about the second redeployment. He noted that there is disagreement about the extent of the PA's administrative control over Area D.

"We did not accept the bridging proposal about a 13 to 15 percent withdrawal," continued.

He contended that the Americans are "aware" of the differences that exist about "how to implement" the projected pullback.

Meanwhile, the government is insisting on the formal deletion by the Palestinian National Council of the Palestinian Covenant's articles that call for Israel's destruction.

While stressing that this is an essential condition for the IDF redeployments to be implemented, the source indicated that this action could take place during the 12-week time frame for the next pullback.

PA

Continued from Page 1

A senior PA official agreed. He said that so far Arafat has not given his negotiators any authority to make changes in the US plan. He said the PA chief would prefer to make concessions to Washington rather than to Israel.

For his part, Erekat said the PA has been reassured that direct talks will not lead to US pressure to amend Washington's proposal for the handover of 13.1 percent of the West Bank to full Palestinian control. It would also not mean US pressure on Arafat to reconvene the Palestinian National Council to amend the Palestinian National Covenant, he said.

"The US says that the position on 13.1% won't change and the position on the covenant won't change," he said.

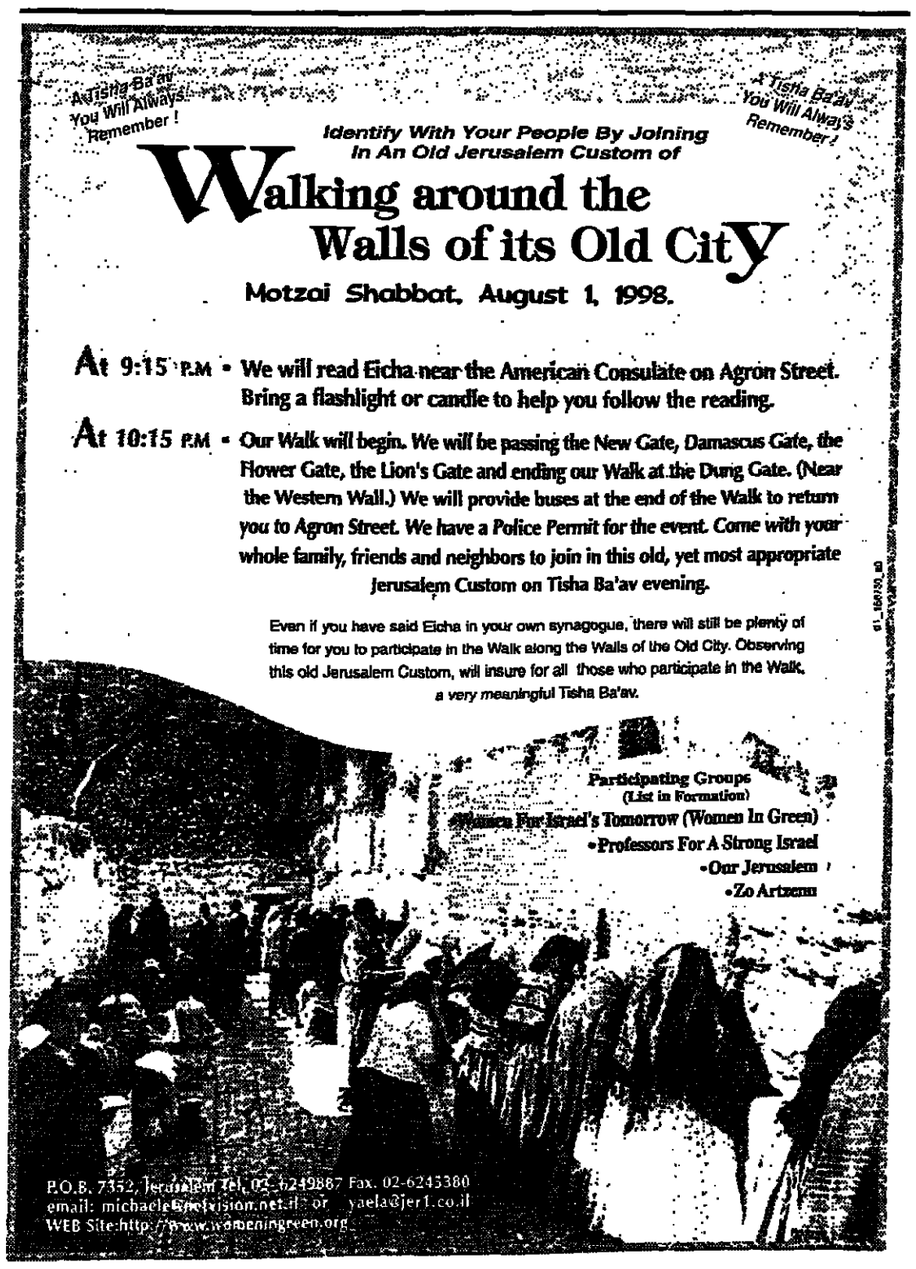
Erekat said the PA will refuse to discuss any changes in the US plan. Instead, PA negotiators will raise their original proposal for an IDF pullout from 40% of the West Bank as the second further redeployment.

This would include the first redeployment, which was never carried out by Israel because of PA opposition to the size of the proposed Israeli withdrawal.

PA officials said their willingness to hold direct talks with Israel is part of their effort to show the US that Israel is responsible for the breakdown in the peace process. They said that until this week the PA had conditioned a return to direct talks with Israel on an announcement by the Netanyahu government that it accepts the US plan. Arafat, meanwhile, said Beijing had pledged financial support to the PA.

After three days of meetings with Chinese leaders, including President Jiang Zemin and Premier Zhu Rongji, Arafat said Beijing's support was "very important for the Palestinian cause and struggle."

"We signed agreements between Palestine and China for Chinese financial backing for the Palestinian Authority," Arafat said, without elaborating.



Britain donates funds to Holocaust survivors

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON. – British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook yesterday announced that a £1 million contribution to ease the plight of Holocaust survivors will be handed over to the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

This marks the first time that British money will be distributed to Holocaust survivors. The contribution is expected to be made imminently.

The funds were pledged by the British government at the Nazi Gold Conference in London last December and led to further pledges totalling $57 million by the US, Argentina, Austria, Croatia, Greece, Luxembourg, Brazil, the Czech Republic, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia and Sweden.

One-third of the British contribition will go to the Board of Deputies to aid needy survivors in Britain, while the remaining two-thirds will go to the Joint Distribution Committee, through the World Jewish Restitution Organization. The money will go to projects providing medical care to needy survivors in Ukraine, Belarus, Russia and Moldova.

"We all have a responsibility to ensure that people who survived *the greatest crime of our times* do not lack the material support they need during their remaining years," Cook said yesterday.

"The fund was launched to provide speedy and practical help to those people, especially those who have suffered under both Nazism and Communism. This help will be administered by highly effective organizations which work tirelessly to give them support."

He added that nothing could erase the scars of those persecuted by the Nazis, "but the fund can at least ensure that they can grow old with dignity, freed from the misery of poverty."

Board of Deputies Director-General Neville Nagler said that two-thirds of the board's allocation would be given to those who are already known to be in need. The remaining one-third will be held back for those who are not known, but may come forward later.

The board has already established a committee which comprises representatives of organizations working with survivors to decide on the disbursement of the funds and to assess claims.

The British government's decision, Nagler said, represents "a very real and tangible recognition of the suffering and distress that have been experienced by survivors of the Holocaust living in Britain today."

Both the Board of Deputies and the Joint Distribution Committee have agreed to consider applications from non-Jewish victims of Nazi persecution on the same basis as those from Jewish survivors.



Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman, flanked by MKs Michael Nudelman (left) and Ze'ev Boim (right), leave the Knesset Finance Committee room yesterday after the committee voted to levy additional fees from the public for medical services. (Isaac Harari)

Religious officials assure Knesset panel on posthumous circumcisions

By LIAT COLLINS

After an emotional meeting on reports that some burial societies are posthumously circumcising immigrant Jews before burying them, members of the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee called on the Chief Rabbinate to ensure that this only takes place with the approval of the dead man's family.

The Religious Affairs Ministry spokesman later said that circumcisions without such permission were isolated incidents, and that burial societies have been warned against the practice.

The arguments in committee ran along religious-secular lines. Religious MKs said posthumous circumcision is no worse than conducting autopsies — which they object to — while secular MKs described it as the ultimate in religious coercion.

"Only I am responsible for my sexual organs. Me and no one else," said Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, who initiated the debate. "The religious establishment is not only taking control of our lives, it is controlling our deaths."

He said a posthumous circumcision should not be carried out without the prior permission of the dead man or his family.

"If [a man] did not ask for it during his lifetime, this decision should be respected," Sarid said.

"Why do you object to a circumcision, but when we're talking about an operation taking out the heart, lungs and other organs you don't have a problem?" asked Yitzhak Vaknin (Shas).

Vaknin said that in autopsies, organs are removed and sometimes not buried for more than a year.

Ophir Pines (Labor) described posthumous circumcision as "perverted and sick" and "a form of idol worship."

Pines said he had filed a police complaint over circumcisions done without the family's consent, as he believes it violates the Anatomy and Pathology Law.

He called for the Religious Affairs Ministry not to renew the licenses of burial societies that carry out such circumcisions.

Vaknin said that some secular MKs are trying to do everything to blacken the names of the haredim and Judaism.

However, he agreed that, as with autopsies, posthumous circumcisions should take place only with the family's approval.

Deputy Religious Affairs Minister Arye Gamliel (Shas) and Rabbi Zelig Braverman, who heads the ministry's burial department, told the committee the ministry had never approved the practice.

Ya'acov Roget, head of the Tel Aviv Burial Society, told the committee the custom of posthumous circumcision appears in halacha, but his society stopped performing it as a matter of course in 1991, after a ruling by Rabbi Yosef Shalom Elyashiv, one of the great halachic authorities of this generation.

Committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal said even if there had been only a handful of cases, the practice defiles the dead.

Religious Affairs Ministry spokesman Yair Wolf said yesterday that only in very rare and isolated incidents had dead men been circumcised without their families' knowledge. The ministry had made clear to the burial societies that this was not to be done in the future.

However, he added that according to halacha, it is forbidden to bury an uncircumcised person among Jews, and those who are not circumcised are usually buried in cemeteries for those not halachically Jewish.

He added that the ministry has appealed to the Chief Rabbinical Council for a ruling on the issue.

Haim Shapiro contributed to this report.

Doctors, consumer groups decry co-payments to health funds

By JUDY SIEGEL

The Israel Medical Association reacted angrily to the Knesset Finance Committee's vote – which could be amended or overturned in a re-vote on Monday – to institute a system of direct "co-payments" to health funds by all residents.

The IMA demanded that instead, the existing 4.8% payroll tax for health services be raised by 0.1% or 0.2%.

IMA chairman Dr. Yoram Blachar said the plan has aroused "great dissatisfaction" among the country's doctors, who have – all along – "opposed the levying of an additional tax" on health fund members.

Blachar said that the "basic problems of the health system result from the lack of an agreed-upon apparatus for updating the medical expenditures index; this would give true expression to the costs of health services.

"Instead, the public has become a cow to be milked to cover the system's deficits," he said.

The co-payment system, heaped upon health taxes, "will eliminate all incentives to solve the real problems of the health system," he added.

The IMA opposes requiring patients to pay for a visit to the doctor, because "this is liable to bar access of sectors in the population to health care, and public health will be endangered."

In the long run, Blachar said, late diagnosis of disease and delayed hospitalization will cost the public purse even more.

"First and foremost, the Treasury must allocate the funds to which it originally committed itself," to cover the gap between health taxes and the basket of health services.

Civil and consumer rights groups also denounced the scheme.

The Finger on the Pulse coalition, a roof body of 30 organizations supporting an egalitarian health insurance system, said co-payments were another step towards creating dual-level medical care, one for the rich and another for the poor. The employers' tax abolished last year should be reinstated to help finance the health system, the group said.

Dr. Bruce Rosen, a senior researcher on health issues at the JDC-Brookdale Institute in Jerusalem, said he favored increasing the health tax by as little as possible while significantly increasing the tax on tobacco products as an alternative to the "faulty" co-payment system.

In this way, healthy behavior would be encouraged, and people whose habits cause them to become ill will help pay for their extra medical costs.

Rosen also advocated suits by the health funds and the government against the tobacco companies, adding that his institute will soon launch a study into the economic and social costs of smoking in Israel.

Rosen said that if the co-payment system is implemented and weaker elements in society are exempted from some of the fees, the health funds would try to discourage such people from being members unless they were compensated by the government.

Most of the health funds were reluctant to comment yesterday, preferring to wait until Monday to see if the co-payment scheme is finally approved.

The Kupat Holim Meuhedet spokesman said tersely that the plan was "a step in the right direction, but that higher health taxes would have been a better one, as collections, exemptions and other arrangements will be "a headache."

Clalit and Leumit declined to voice an opinion, but Maccabi finance director Yitzhak Ganor said his health fund favored the plan "because it restores the direct financial link between the insurers and their members" that was cancelled by the national health insurance law.

Competition among the health funds may increase, he said, because each insurer had the option of offering more or different services and cutting some payment rates.

"Raising the cigarette tax substantially would have been preferable, however, but the government refuses to do that," Ganor said.

Health Ministry deputy director-general for information Yair Amikam said the ministry has "not yet considered" a variety of technical complications posed by the new arrangement, including members' refusal to pay, knowing when families have reached quarterly payment ceilings and appeals for exemptions.

"Most of this will be up to the health funds to decide," he said.

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza had preferred a higher health tax than the co-payments, but he didn't get his way.

"However, at least – if the plan is passed on Monday – the Finance Ministry will allocate the NIS 300 million it promised to reduce the deficits."

Rules to be updated on food product storage

By JUDY SIEGEL

Health Ministry regulations on the storage of food products in wholesale and retail establishments will be updated following the contamination of a handful of Coca-Cola bottles in the storeroom of a Rehovot grocery.

The ministry said that existing food supervision regulations already require separation of food from contaminants, but it will issue updates within a few days "that will better define storage conditions of food products, including beverages in supermarkets and grocery stores."

A draft of the regulations was sent by officials to the Justice Ministry for consideration.

When the Ribak Committee appointed by the Health Ministry completes its investigation into the alleged contamination of 16 Coca-Cola bottles with spilled paint thinner, the ministry will publish the conclusions.

Israel Consumer Council director Ariella Ravdel-Nedkov demanded that the ministry and the police publicize details of their investigation of the incident.

In a letter to ministry associate director-general Dr. Boaz Lev, she said the authorities must do more to protect public health and prevent contamination of food products in storage.

Contractors lapsed on precautions for Maccabiah bridge – prosecution

The prosecution tried to show yesterday that contractors for last year's Maccabiah Games opening ceremonies took safety precautions in every area except the construction of a footbridge that collapsed, killing four Australian athletes.

An engineer and a set designer testified in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court about their work on installations inside the stadium where the opening ceremonies were held last July 14.

The Australian team was on its way to the stadium when the bridge collapsed, throwing the athletes into the polluted Yarkon River below. Four team members died and dozens were injured.

Two contractors, the engineer who designed the bridge, the director of the games and the chairman of the Maccabiah organizing committee are on trial on charges of negligent homicide and building without proper permits.

Yesterday, engineer Sasson Assif testified that he oversaw construction and checked the safety of installations such as a lighting tower inside the stadium and the entrance gates to the stadium.

Assif said he was not informed about the construction of the footbridge. "I was not even aware of it," he said.

Prosecutor Hadass Forer-Gafni noted that while the contractor hired Assif to oversee construction inside the stadium, no one was hired to check out the safety of the bridge.

Judge Edna Beckenstein asked Assif whether he would have ordered someone to oversee construction of the bridge if he had been in charge of it, and Assif said, "Yes."

Another witness, Dov Ben-David, testified about his design for the stage set for the opening ceremonies. Forer-Gafni said she called Ben-David "to show that the Maccabiah invested serious effort in the way it presented itself and in the way it dealt with other issues, except for the bridge."

Also testifying briefly yesterday was a policeman who drove an ATV across the bridge the day before the collapse. (AP)

Where to eat in Israel

JERUSALEM

ANGELO RISTORANTE ITALIANO – Frommer's 1997 Guide says, "The most superb pasta in the country..." Also fresh fish & Roman specialties. Kosher Dairy. Call owners Angelo Di Segni / Lori Rosenkranz for reservations. 9 Horkanos. Tel. 02-623 6095.

COFFEE MILL, Coffee Beanery and Loose Teas, Espresso Bar, Jim. Rabbinate kashrut. Light dairy menu; coffee & tea accessories. 23 Emek Refaim Tel. 566-1665. Can. Talpiot Tel. 672-5549.

DARNA – Authentic Moroccan Restaurant, KOSHER. Our home is your home. Business lunch; salads, couscous, dessert, traditional mint tea. Only NIS 69. with this ad. Open 12-3 p.m., 6:30-11:30 p.m. 3 Horkanos St. Tel. 02-624 5406.

DEVORAH SCHECTER CATERING, Kosher Limehadrin, Jerusalem Rabbinate. Catering for all occasions, Shabbat and Hagim. Meat, dairy and parve menus. Great desserts. Tel. 02-679-4872. Fax. 02-679-5370.

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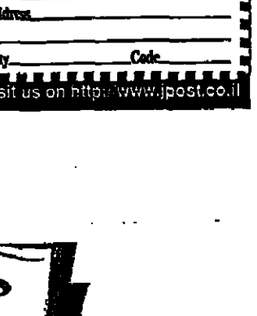
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Swiss choir serenades Holocaust survivors

NEW YORK (AP) – A Swiss boys choir on a US concert tour with a mission to strengthen cultural ties and bridge cultural divides has made an important first stop – at a nursing home for Holocaust survivors in New York.

"The boys wanted to perform for the Jewish community to show that there are many more sides to Switzerland than are read about in newspapers today," said Ambassador Jacques Reverdin, the consul general of Switzerland in New York.

On Tuesday afternoon, the ambassador accompanied 71 members of the Zurich Boys Choir, which arrived in New York on Monday, to the Margaret Tietz Center for Nursing Care in the borough of Queens.

The "Singing Switzerland" program featured works by Mozart and Felix Mendelssohn and a cappella folk music in German, French, Italian and Romansch, the languages of Switzerland. It was sponsored by Credit Suisse and UBS, the banks involved in negotiations with US officials over hidden Holocaust-era accounts.

The mini-concert was greeted with energetic applause and even tears by the center's 200 elderly and ailing residents.

"It was so nice for a generation many years removed from mine to come here in this gesture of goodwill," said Alice Schiff, 95, who escaped the Nazis by fleeing Berlin in the 1930s for Brussels, Zurich, Paris, Rome and then Jerusalem.

The center's residents, whose average age is 80, cleared their cafeteria and recreation room of folding chairs and tables for the boys. They sat in armchairs and wheelchairs or leaned on walkers. Some sang softly along in German while the boys, whose average age is about 12, performed.

Most of the seniors stayed seated but chanted "Bravo, bravo" after star soprano Daniel Hellmann, 12, led the choir in Max Reger's "Lullaby of Maria" and "The Goatherd" in French.

IDF confiscates sheep in firing range

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and STEVE RODAN

Stone-throwing Beduin shepherds clashed with IDF troops after the army confiscated their flocks from a firing range in the Judean Desert yesterday.

The soldiers fired rubber bullets and tear gas at hundreds of rioting Beduin and at least 30 people were slightly injured. Twelve were hospitalized at Bethlehem's Hussein Hospital with rubber bullet wounds and 20 for tear gas inhalation, Palestinians said. Hospital officials said none suffered any serious injuries.

The incident began when IDF and Civil Administration officials caught Beduin grazing their sheep in the hills south of the settlement of Ma'aleh Amos. They told the shepherds that the area was a firing range, that they were violating the law by entering it and started confiscating the sheep.

The angry shepherds return to their village of Arab al-Rashideh and rounded up the entire clan – men, women and children – and hundreds of them started throwing stones at the soldiers and Civil Administration officials. They also burned tires and blocked the road as their 140 sheep were loaded on to trucks.

Reinforcements were sent in and quelled the protest using tear gas and rubber bullets, the army said. The jeeps suffered from serious body damage from the stones, military sources said.

Lt. Peter Lerner, spokesman for the Civil Administration, said that the sheep were being held in "protective custody" in a pen in the Jordan Valley and would only be released after their owners paid a fine and the expenses for holding them.

"The sheep were confiscated for being on a firing zone. Any firing zone is dangerous and I am sure the owners of the livestock would prefer to have them removed than be fired at," Lerner said. "It was for their own protection.

"The Beduin got angry because they didn't understand what was happening," Lerner added.

Tempers had subsided by the afternoon and the road was cleared.

Earlier in the day, the Palestinian Authority said that Jewish settlers fired several shots at a PA police patrol in the Bethlehem area. PA officials said the shooting took place near Solomon's Pool, south of Bethlehem, around noon. They said one bullet hit the police jeep.

Nobody was injured in the shooting, officials said. They said the PA reported this to the Bethlehem office of the District Coordinating Office, where the IDF and PA police investigate complaints of violence.

A Jewish settlers's group, the Committee for Road Safety, announced that its members had hurled stones at a Palestinian police patrol during a confrontation, but denied that it used firearms.

Judea and Samaria Police spokesman Opher Sivan confirmed that a group of settlers did throw stones at the PA, but said that no shots were fired. Sivan said police have a suspect in mind, but he has not been detained yet.

Lerner said that a police investigation into the matter had found that it was a stone which hit the window and not a bullet.

Meanwhile, the PA is recruiting thousands of youngsters into what officials say is a paramilitary force that will train the youngsters in civil defense in a program supervised by Palestinian military commanders.

Voice of Palestine Radio reported that 10,500 young men will be trained in 64 camps around the territories, including in the areas of Bethlehem, Hebron, Ramallah, Nablus, Tulkarm and Salfit. The ministries involved are the Education and Culture Ministry and the Sports and Youth Ministry.

Gil Hoffman contributed to this report.



A Beduin woman shouts at IDF soldiers who were sent to confiscate her tribe's sheep yesterday because they were grazing in a closed military zone. (AP)

Palestinian legislator urges attacks to protest Israeli policy

By STEVE RODAN

A Palestinian Legislative Council member who for years headed a movement dedicated to reconciliation between Arabs and Jews has called for violent attacks by Palestinians to protest Israeli policy in Jerusalem.

In an interview published last week in the Amman-based newspaper *Al Sabeel*, Ziad Abu Ziyad called on Palestinians to proceed along "the right way ... There have been cases of rock-throwing in Jerusalem and the Israeli measure has heightened anti-occupation sentiments on the Palestinian street. This is what the Arab population can do on the ground."



Abu Ziyad (Brian Hendler)

Abu Ziyad indicated that the Palestinian Authority is in coordination with what he termed the "masses on the streets." That is while the PA continues to proceed with efforts to implement an Israeli redeployment in the West Bank. "The public is active in terms of resistance and mass action," he said.

In the 1980s, Abu Ziyad founded the Hebrew-language *Gesher* newspaper which he said was dedicated to reconciliation between Arabs and Jews.

Fluent in Hebrew, he quickly became a key Fatah activist in Jerusalem and his name is being raised as a candidate for a position in the PA Cabinet.

In the interview, Abu Ziyad ruled out military confrontation between the PA and Israel. He said without Arab military involvement, the PA will not act alone.

"Do you want me to say that Palestinian tanks and rockets are waiting for Arab tanks, aircraft and navies to move before they act?" Abu Ziyad asked. "What do you expect the Palestinian Authority to do?"

The PLC member said the PA would not satisfy Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and order a halt to the peace process. Such a move by the Palestinians, he said, would first have to be preceded by preparations for war.

"Before I first decide to suspend the negotiations, I must make sure that I have the options of war," he said.

"The Arabs are now generally in a sorry state; they are in retreat; their ranks are in disarray; their morale is down. Against this background, Netanyahu would like nothing better than to see the negotiations grind to a halt."

Abu Ziyad ruled out a resumption of suicide bombings, saying this would allow Israel to annex more Palestinian territory.

The PLC member said the Palestinians entered the Oslo process out of weakness and because of lack of support from the Arab world. For the PA to abandon Oslo, he said, would lead to an Israeli invasion of PA territories. "We are not prepared for that," he said.



Summer fun for children of fallen soldiers

IDF Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz puts his beret on Meir Rasuli, 11, during a visit yesterday to the Society for the Welfare of Israeli Soldiers camp for children of fallen soldiers in Givat Olga. (Ilan Ossendryver/Israel Sun)

UN human rights watchdog grills Israel

GENEVA (Reuters) – Israel was put on the stand before a United Nations human-rights watchdog in Geneva yesterday to answer to allegations of torture, discrimination and detention without trial.

Human-rights groups sought the condemnation of Israel by the UN Human Rights Committee, whose 18 independent experts scrutinize states' compliance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

High on the agenda was Israel's treatment of Palestinians in the territories, days after a snub in New York where UN member states voted overwhelmingly in favor of an Arab-sponsored motion to enhance Palestine status at the world body.

This is the first time Israel has faced the spotlight at the UN forum, where it is presenting a report overdue since 1993. The body issues proposals to countries accused of rights abuses but has no power to apply sanctions, except the pressure from its international lawyers to embarrass and cajole.

Many of the 140 UN member states that have signed the covenant rarely, if ever, submit monitoring reports.

Israel has long tried to argue that it should not be required to report on the territories. It was attacked in Geneva by the New York-based rights group Human Rights Watch for not mentioning the territories in its report.

"This report seriously misrepresents Israel's human-rights record," Human Rights Watch executive director for the Middle East and North Africa, Hanny Megally, said in a statement.

The lawyers pressed Israel on many fronts: what is it doing about the right of self-determination of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip, on rights abuses in the territories, on deaths in custody and alleged torture.

Israel was expected to respond today.

Human Rights Watch accused Israel of torture and detention of individuals as "hostages" and called for its condemnation.

Israel has rejected allegations that the General Security Service uses torture while interrogating Palestinian and other detainees.

New village planned for Druse IDF veterans

By DAVID RUDGE

A new village – the first of its kind in the country – is to be established in the Galilee for demobilized soldiers and members of the security forces from the Druse community.

The decision to set up such a community was made by the Defense Ministry and the ministerial committee headed by National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon for the development of the Galilee and the Negev.

The announcement was made by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai during a recent IDF rally in the Galilee Druse village of Hurfeish to salute the Druse and Circassian communities.

The Defense Ministry is discussing the possibility of establishing a special Nahal Druse unit which would lay the groundwork for the proposed new village.

The decision to establish such a new settlement for demobilized Druse is seen as an expression of gratitude by the state to the Israeli Druse community for their contribution to the country.

In contrast, nearly 40 Druse women from the Golan Heights have been staging a hunger strike since the beginning of the week at the home of late Druse spiritual leader Sheikh Amin Tarif in the Galilee village of Julis.

The hunger-striking women are protesting the Interior Ministry's refusal to rescind the Israeli citizenship of around 400 Druse on the Golan Heights.

The majority of the Druse community there refused to accept Israeli identity cards after the government's decision in 1981 to extend Israeli law to the Golan. Prior to then, the area had been ruled by a military administration.

Those with Israeli citizenship complained to Interior Minister Eli Suissa that they were being boycotted by Druse religious leaders on the Golan, who are all predominantly pro-Syria.

They asked Suissa when he visited the region two months ago to consider their request to rescind their Israeli citizenship because of the social and religious problems this had created for them, as well as their children who had reached the age of 18.

Suissa, following top-level discussions with government leaders and members of the security services, announced recently that there was no legal or other way of rescinding the Israeli citizenship of those Druse who held it.

The spokeswoman for the Interior Ministry said the decision had been taken at the highest levels and that despite the hunger strike by the Golan Heights Druse women, nothing more could be done.

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NEWS
in brief

Carmel Forest rape suspects remanded

Four of the suspects in a Carmel Forest rape were remanded yesterday until the end of the proceedings. The Haifa District Court released the other three suspects on bail.

Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein has decided that the two 17-year-old suspects will be tried as adults, along with the other suspects, who are 18 years old.

The seven are suspected of gang-raping a girl in Haifa's Carmel Forest and assaulting her boyfriend. *Itim*

Herzliya police chief wounded in chase

Herzliya Police Chief Dep.-Cmdr. Yaacov Ish-Yemini was lightly wounded late Tuesday while chasing people who broke into cars in the Herzliya area. Ish-Yemini and a detective discerned two suspects who were looking for cars to break into. When they saw the police, the suspects began driving and then attempted to run over Ish-Yemini, who was wounded lightly in the shoulder and lower half of his body. Ish-Yemini was able to draw his gun and arrest the suspects, who had come from Taibe. *Itim*

Wiesenthal: Croatian street must change name

The Simon Wiesenthal Center yesterday appealed to Beit Shemesh Mayor Danny Vaknin to consider canceling the town's twin city arrangement with Split, Croatia if it does not change the name of a street named in honor of Ustashe education minister Mile Budak. Budak served in the World War II Croatian government, which carried out a policy of genocide against Croatian Jewry, as well as mass murder and forced conversion to Catholicism against Serbs and Gypsies. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Group protests police brutality

A group, consisting mainly of immigrants from the former Soviet Union who now live in Rehovot sent a letter to President Ezer Weizman and Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani yesterday protesting police violence and brutality, especially against Russian immigrants. They sent the letter after an incident in which police allegedly beat and handcuffed a woman in the center of Rehovot, ignoring her mother's cries that the woman is 75 percent disabled. *Itim*

Worker who fell into silo is rescued

Firefighters and Magen David Adom personnel rescued a worker in a chicken breeding plant near Haifa yesterday after he fell into a silo. The worker was injured from falling into the silo, which was empty. Rescuers sought unsuccessfully to make an opening in the bottom of the silo at the Dagan plant. Eventually, one of the firefighters was able to extract the worker, and he was transferred to Rambam Hospital. *Itim*

Rabbis to renovate Moslem cemetery

Members of the Rabbis for Human Rights movement have organized a clean-up campaign to repair and renovate the old Moslem cemetery in the artists village of Ein Hod on Mt. Carmel. The rabbis and some of their congregants were joined there on Tuesday afternoon by residents of the nearby Moslem hamlet of Ein Hud, many of whose ancestors are buried in the cemetery. The project was carried out in coordination with the Religious Affairs Ministry and with the blessings and support of Ahmed Natur, the kadi of the Israeli Moslem High Court of Appeal. Rabbi Arik Ascherman, executive director of the Rabbis for Human Rights movement, said he hoped the project would be the first of many such campaigns in other parts of the country. *David Rudge*

Only 2 knapsacks pass Consumer Council test

Only two of six knapsacks checked by *Baduk*, the magazine of the Israel Consumer Council, both made by the Modan company, met the national standards, council reported recently.

The "Flick" knapsack, retailing for NIS 99, was the best one by far, meeting or exceeding all the test criteria, even though it was cheaper than almost all the others, the council said. The next best, costing NIS 146.99, bears Modan's own name. Knapsacks should have a stiff back, to distribute the weight of the contents evenly. The straps should be at least 3 cm. wide – the wider the better. Elementary school children should carry no more than 3.5 kg., while older kids can carry up to 6 kg. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Swiss teachers to attend Yad Vashem seminar

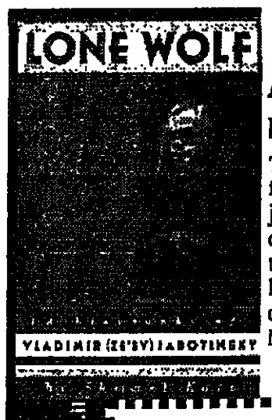
A group of 27 non-Jewish Swiss historians and history teachers have arrived here to study the Holocaust and Swiss history during World War II at the Yad Vashem International School.

The course was initiated by Swiss Jewish organizations following a rise in antisemitism in Switzerland due to the revelations regarding Swiss banks, Nazi gold and survivors' assets.

The head of the Swiss delegation stated that the teachers knew very little about the Holocaust and antisemitism and will use their newfound knowledge to examine Swiss textbooks' coverage of the Holocaust and their historical accuracy. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

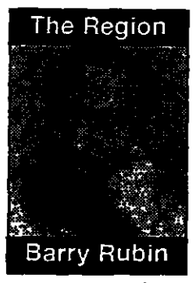
Naveh: Gov't working to gain Pollard's release

Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh told Army Radio yesterday that the government is working on gaining Israeli spy Jonathan Pollard's release in the near future. Army Radio also broadcast a conversation between Pollard, who is imprisoned in North Carolina for spying on the US, and his wife, Esther, in which Pollard sharply condemned the Israeli government for not working harder to convince the US to free him. *Itim*

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INDEX-LONE WOLF

The Syrian interest

The Region



Barry Rubin

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Shara expressed strong pessimism about the Middle East's situation and the prospects for peace, says the Syrian newspaper, *Al-Baath*.

But it didn't report whether he was smiling at the time. After all, a terrible regional situation and no progress toward peace is the best possible thing for Syrian interests.

With Syrian President Hafez Assad visiting Paris for one of his rare foreign trips, and with Russian military sales on the upswing, Damascus seems to be in better diplomatic shape than usual.

This doesn't mean, though, there is much chance of war with Israel either. On the contrary, the Syrians know they can't really rely on anyone for political or military support in the event of such a conflict.

Assad's army may look good on paper but the numbers are inflated by obsolete and poorly maintained weapons. The gap between Russian and US-made weapons is sure to grow even further. While General Ali Asslan has just been appointed chief of staff, replacing General Hikmat Shehabi who had seemed to have a life-time appointment, effective military reform is years away at best.

And Syria's greatest secret is that it wants neither war nor peace. It's fairly happy with the existing situation.

That statement may seem strange. Still, analysis of Syrian interests and goals is more shrouded by myth or lack of serious thought than almost any other Middle East question.

To put it plainly: peace with Israel, even in exchange for the entire Golan, would be disastrous for Syria; not because of some blind, fanatic faith, but due to the most pragmatic interests of its regime.

Here's a short list of relevant factors:

1. If Israel becomes a normal part of Middle Eastern politics, it will always — with the exception of opposing a strong Iraq – side with Syria's opponents. Israel is already allied with Jordan and Turkey. It could work with Egypt and even an independent Palestinian state more easily than with Damascus.

2. Striking an Israel-Syria peace pact would generate an Israel-Lebanon treaty as well. From that moment, no matter what the treaties actually say, Syria's grip on Lebanon would weaken. Israel could also gain influence among independent-minded Lebanese parties. Losing Lebanon as a satellite would entail massive financial losses to Syria's elite, which is thriving on smuggling and other enterprises via and inside Lebanon.

3. A successful Israel-Palestinian peace process, including the creation of a Palestinian state, would rob Syria of the Palestinian card which it has found so useful during the last 30 years.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat would prefer Egypt, Iraq, and other Arab states to any dependence on a country which has repeatedly stabbed him in the back.

4. Without being a front-line state in the struggle against Israel, Syria would be reduced to a fourth-rate power. It would have little leverage to pry aid out of oil-exporting Arab states.

5. The often-touted economic benefits of peace for Syria would really be almost zero. Western companies are not going to rush into Syria to invest. Prospects for economic aid are very dim given the situation in East Asia, the former USSR, and the general tendency to spend money at home. At any rate, Syria's government does not want to make reforms that would reduce its hold on the economy.

6. Regional peace would increase US influence, a scary prospect for Syrian leaders.

7. Domestically, peace would have a double disadvantage. On one hand, critics of a dictatorship based largely on a minority ethnic community would whisper that Assad is a traitor to Arabism and to all previous Syrian history. On the other hand, any increased openness to Western investment or influence would weaken the regime further.

Thus, Syria is happy to make trouble for a stalled peace process which already has enough problems. Like other radical forces, it can say, "We told you the Israelis didn't want peace."

Unfortunately, Assad's French hosts seem more than willing to help him make the situation worse by trying to sponsor a conference with the Arabs that would exclude Israel, and by selling arms to Syria.

To understand Syrian behavior during the last decade, and its conduct in negotiations with Israel, one must consider the above factors.

Yet Syria's entire geopolitical position is usually ignored by analysts and politicians, who endlessly repeat the simple maxim that "Assad is ready to make peace, but he's just holding out for a better deal."

The fact is that the previous Israeli government offered Syria the entire Golan in exchange for full peace and limited security guarantees. Syria turned down this deal and suspended negotiations in early 1996.

This all happened before the election of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

No matter who is Israel's prime minister, prospects for Israel-Syria peace are as close to zero as politics can allow; as are the prospects for war.

Desperately seeking change

Japan's latest political mayhem raises fears of gridlock

By SONNI EFRON and VALERIE REITMAN

TOKYO – It could take up to eight tumultuous days to choose Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's successor, and the Japanese fret that they could face protracted political gridlock and end up with a new government no more capable of swift reform than the one that fell when Hashimoto resigned.

Voters here, anxious over the foundering economy and fed up with political dithering, gave Hashimoto and his ruling Liberal Democratic Party, or LDP, a drubbing in elections for the upper house of Parliament Sunday; he announced Monday that he would quit over the debacle.

Several financial analysts, long ago grown gloomy over the slow pace of Japanese financial reform, saw little hope that a new LDP-led government would differ substantially from its predecessor.

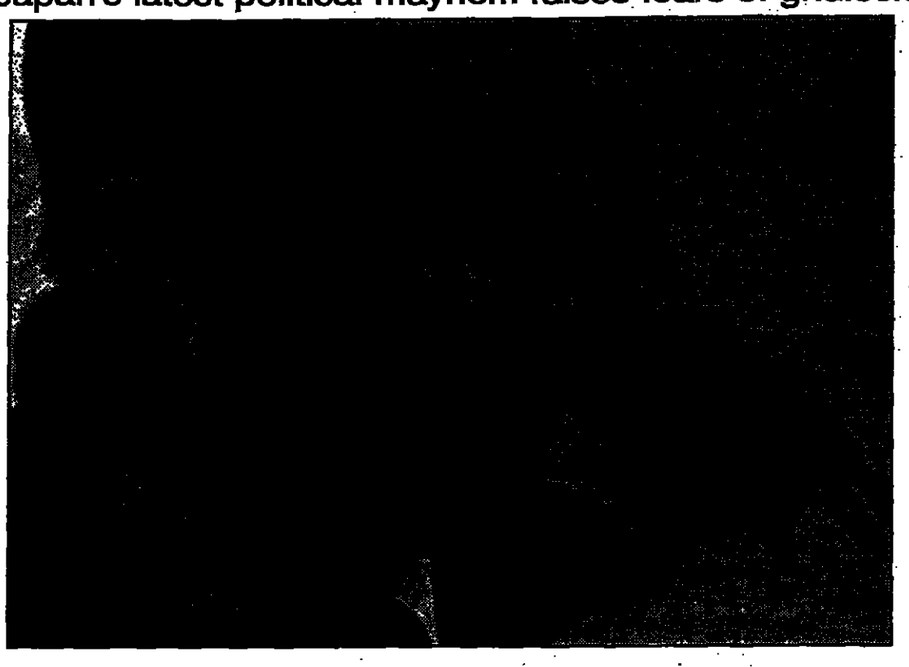
Kenneth Courtis, Deutsche Bank's senior economist, predicted "more political paralysis, more indecision by the government, at the very moment when Japan has to click into gear and move ahead with strong policies on what has become a massive crisis situation."

If the situation is not reversed, then it is going to be very difficult to stabilize the rest of Asia, Courtis added, expressing a global consensus that unless Japan's economy markedly improves, it will be difficult for Tokyo to help boost its regional neighbors and avert analysts' worst-case scenario in which the Japanese doldrums even drag down American fortunes.

But others express hope that the unexpected rejection by voters could jolt the LDP survivors into high gear on fixing the ailing Japanese economy after seven years of delay.

"Although the result was a bullet through the brain for the good Mr. Hashimoto, it was only a kick up the backside for the LDP," concluded ING Barings analyst Pelham Smithers.

"If the party leaders get their skates on, we could see the sort of actions that the market is looking for," including tax cuts to stimulate Japan's economy and fast action on this nation's huge bad-loan crisis.



Japanese businessmen in downtown Tokyo walk past a giant screen broadcasting PM Hashimoto's resignation announcement Monday. Many voters expect his successors to offer more of the same. (AP)

LDP members are to meet July 21 to select a new prime minister who would take office July 27. Technically, Hashimoto will remain prime minister until then, though he announced Monday he was calling off a scheduled July 22 visit to the United States.

In Washington, there was a sense of disappointment that President Clinton now would not get the chance to strengthen US-Japan relations by feting Hashimoto with full pomp for what was to be the first official visit to America by a Japanese prime minister in 11 years.

Such an overt display of the importance of the ties between the two allies was considered especially important to soothe Japan's concerns after Clinton's trip to China earlier this month.

State Department spokesman James P. Rubin stressed Monday that Hashimoto's resignation "would not alter the strong nature of our relationship" with Japan. But he also underscored the need for any new Japanese government to move decisively to resolve the country's economic crisis.

The United States and other major industrial nations have expressed grave concern that unless Japan gets its economy growing at a healthy clip again, the Japanese may buy fewer goods and services from America, as well as their Asian neighbors, while shipping more of theirs to foreign shores.

Business leaders in Japan warned that delay in selecting Hashimoto's successor will trigger a run on Japanese stocks and the yen.

They called for the swift formation of a unity government that would put politics aside while Japan hashes out legislation on permanent tax cuts and a "total plan" for bailing out and then restructuring Japan's debt-laden banks.

But victorious and emboldened opposition forces showed no inclination to cooperate with the weakened LDP, and the *Asahi* newspaper joined the opposition in calling for snap elections for the lower house of Parliament, where the LDP still controls a comfortable majority.

Under the Japanese system, real legislative power is concentrated in the lower, not the upper house; the lower house actually names the prime minister, ratifies international treaties, approves the budget and can even override resistance to bills from the upper house.

Political analysts predicted the battered LDP, which won only 44 of the 126 upper house seats up for grabs in this election, will put off new lower-house elections for as long as it can – until the legal deadline in the year 2000 if possible.

Instead, the LDP will probably try to form a coalition with some elements of the opposition. The most likely candidate is the Komeito, or Clean Government Party, the political arm of the Soka Gakkai, Japan's 8 million -strong lay Buddhist organization.

For months before Sunday's electoral rout, the LDP had been courting the Clean Government Party, with Hashimoto even apologizing to Daisaku Ikeda, Soka Gakkai's controversial leader, for negative campaign tactics in the 1996 election focusing on Ikeda's personal life.

But Komeito members still harbor hurt feelings, and its leaders have so far categorically rejected the LDP as a suitor, Soka Gakkai spokeswoman Rie Tsumura said.

Meanwhile, the Democratic Party of Japan, one of the winners in Sunday's contest, was feeling out other opposition parties about a possible anti-LDP coalition.

The Japanese public does not have much faith that even Sunday's rout would make much of a difference in Japanese politics.

Keio University pollster Yoshiaki Kobayashi found that 73.4 percent of those surveyed did not believe that the election would make politicians listen to the voice of the people.

Disgust continued to run deep after the election, with many Japanese saying they felt even a new prime minister would change little.

"No matter who gets the job next, the result will be just the same," said Yoko Ito, a Tokyo homemaker who lodged her protest vote with the Communist Party. "Why don't you send in a good person from America to do the job? Japanese politicians are hopeless."

(LA Times)

Did Shakespeare want to be a Catholic priest?

By NIKKLA GIBSON

HOGHTON TOWER, England – But for a twist of fate William Shakespeare might have been a Roman Catholic priest-spy at peril of being hanged, drawn and quartered instead of applauded by Protestant England's Queen Elizabeth I.

This is the theory of British professor Richard Wilson who, with aristocrat Sir Bernard de Hoghton, plans to spend 20 million pounds ($32.5 million) turning a stately home in northwest England into a research and performance center for Shakespeare.

Wilson, professor of Renaissance studies at Lancaster University, believes Hoghton Tower was once used as a "Jesuit clearing-house" from where young men would travel abroad to become priests, and that a 16-year-old Shakespeare went to the manor house after being recruited by missionary Edmund Campion.

For Sir Bernard, the owner of the hill-top country house and holder of England's second oldest baronetcy, this theory builds on a family legend that a young man called Shakeshafte, who in 1580 worked for one of his ancestors as a tutor cum player, was in fact the Bard.

"If Shakespeare was Shakeshafte, he was a member of a household which was for six months, it seems, nothing less than the secret college and headquarters of the English Counter Reformation," Wilson said.

He believes Campion's itinerary provides the "smoking gun" for his theory that Shakespeare planned to study abroad at a Catholic seminary, possibly Douai in northern France founded by the de Hoghtons, as part of the program of Catholic resistance.

"There is this extraordinary but logical connection between the most Catholic town in the Midlands (Stratford) and the great center for Catholic patronage at Hoghton," Wilson said.

"If it was his (Campion's) mission which took his converts north, it was also his catastrophe which spared the playwright the penalties of priesthood." Campion was arrested, tortured for the names of all who had helped or been persuaded by him and then hanged on December 1, 1581, by which time Alexander de Houghton had dispersed his estate and recommended Shakeshafte to another patron.

"Even as the master of Hoghton Tower helped his servants to new identities in the Tower of London, Campion was being tortured for their names," Wilson said.

He said this period in Shakespeare's life left an indelible mark on the Protestant court's darling as he took upon himself the secrecy and evasiveness of the Catholic world which is apparent in his plays.

Hoghton Tower's Shakespeare connection is not a new theory.

Retired professor of English at Newcastle University Ernst Honigmann suggested as much 10 years ago.

But Wilson's theory has spawned a wave of enthusiasm to create a northern center for Shakespeare and Renaissance studies.

Wilson and Sir Bernard envisage hosting seminars in the house, which has views of the Irish Sea and the Pennine mountain range.

Stage plays would be held in a 800-seat theater to be built in an adjacent cliff-face, while Hoghton's 17th-century Great Barn would become extra performance space.

It is hoped the majority of the project's cost will be funded by the National Lottery and that Hoghton Tower will host an annual festival of plays, including one especially commissioned modern piece. Wilson said Arthur Miller was lined up to write the first.

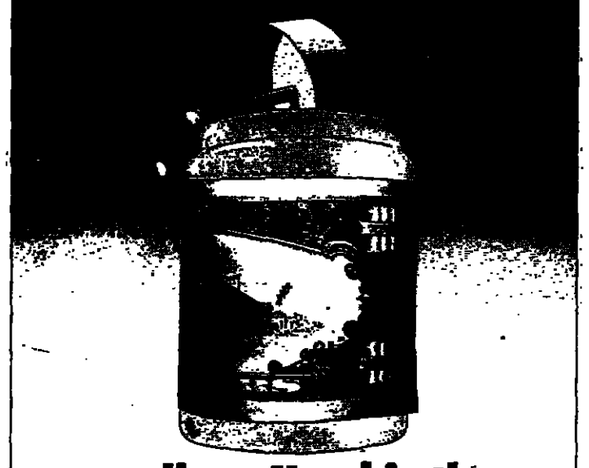
Although other scholars of the Bard support the concept of a Shakespeare center in the north, saying it would loosen London and Stratford's traditional stranglehold, they say the theory, as with all theories about Shakespeare's lost years, is controversial.

Professor Kieran Ryan, head of English at Royal Holloway College of the University of London, said Shakespeare's life is simply a huge, colorful set of myths.

"But I do not think it does any harm to have one more, especially when it can provide a cultural center in another part of England that has hitherto been starved," he said.

(Reuters)

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Tender No. 5173/001 - NOTICE OF PROPOSED PURCHASE

1. The Ports and Railways Authority - Israel (hereinafter "The P.R.A.") in accordance with its obligations with regard to tendering procedures under the International Agreement on Governmental Procurement "GATT", wishes to obtain bids for:
The supply of 4 (four) or 5 (five) Rubber Tyred Gantry Cranes (RTG) for the Port of Ashdod (hereinafter "The Works");
Plus an option for up to 5 additional units of RTG over a period of 5 years, all in accordance and subject to the terms specified in the Tender Documents.
2. The Works include inter-alia:
2.1 The supply of 4 or 5 RTGs.
2.2 An option for PRA' for the supply of up to 5 additional RTGs, if exercised.
2.3 The supply of Technical Documentation and Training;
2.4 The supply of Technical Support
All as specified in the Outline Specifications.
3. Time Frame:
Contract signature date - 3/1999.
Requested delivery date - Spring 2000.
4. Pre-requisites:
4.1 Past Experience
4.1.1 Supply of 15 cranes of the subject type (RTG) that were delivered by the company in the past 10 years including orders in hand.
4.1.2 At least 6 RTGs are in operation for a minimum of one year, out of which at least 4 were delivered in the past 5 years.
4.1.3 Continuous supply of all types of cranes in the past 5 years (delivery of at least every second year), including orders in hand.
4.1.4 Supply of minimum 4 RTGs with 8 or 16 wheels in the past 5 years.
4.1.5 Supply of minimum 4 cranes, of all types, with complete AC drives in the last 5 years (Frequency control drives with inverter control).
4.2 Engineering and Technical Competence:
4.2.1 The following functions should be an integral part of the Company's activities (all and each one):
- Research & Development (R&D) and Design;
- Erection Crews;
- Quality Assurance & Control;
- After Sale Service.
4.2.2 The company shall be certified (or in profess of being certified)according to ISO 9000 or an equivalent standard in the subject field.
4.3 Financial State
"Letter of Capability" issued by a first class bank.
4.4 Data Sheet
Compliance with all the items in the data sheet (section C3) which are marked with "#".
5. The bidder is required to provide all documents and/or certificates required to prove its compliance with the Pre-requisites.
6. The Winning bidder will be required to commit itself to an Industrial Commercial Cooperation undertaking and Offset Procurement, on the terms contained in this tender.
7. The P.R.A. reserves the right to conduct negotiations with any or all of the selected bidders. Further, the P.R.A. is not obligated to purchase the lowest priced cranes which might be offered by any potential bidder.
8. Tender documents including technical specification are available upon payment (not refundable) of NIS 3510 including V.AT.
9. The last date to submit the proposals is no later that 15 September, 1998, at 15:00 hours.
10. All documents and proposals should be submitted in English.
11. The address for the purchase of the Tender Documentation and for submitting the proposals is:
Ports and Railways Authority - Israel, Purchasing Division, 11th Floor, room 1103, 74, Petach Tikvah Road, Tel-aviv 61201, Israel, Fax: 972-3-5616027

ISRAEL ELECTRIC חברת חשמל

TENDERS

The Israel Electric Corporation Ltd.
The Organisation and Logistics Branch
Logistics and Real Estate Division

Extension of dates in Tender for Helicopter Services (Tender no. 6500/98)

Further to the notice published on the 8.6.98 regarding the aforesaid tender, the Israel Electric Corporation Ltd (IEC) hereby wishes to advise as follows:

1. The last date for purchase of tender documents has been extended to 10.8.98.
2. The last date for submission of technical proposals has been extended to 13.00 hours (Israel time) on 10.9.1998.

The tender documents can be obtained between 8.00-15.00, Sun.-Thurs., at the offices of the IEC, Logistics and Real Estate Division, 90 Yigal Alon Street, Tel Aviv. Further details can be obtained from Mr. Zvi Manor at:
Tel: 03-5654918
Fax: 03-5654930

The payment for the tender documents is NIS 2,188. This payment will not be refunded.

The rest of the tender terms and conditions remain unchanged.

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Korean strikes expand

By KIM MYONG-HWAN

SEOUL (Reuters) - Thousands of South Korea's state-sector workers yesterday joined a nationwide strike initiated by unions in the heavy industrial sector.

But financial sector unions said they had delayed their work stoppages over concerns about lack of public support.

"About 100,000 workers in state companies, such as Korea Telecom, joined strikes today," said Shin Chang-hwa, spokesman for the hard-line Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU).

The KCTU said the number of strikers had risen to 151,000 from 53,000 on Tuesday when the industrial action began.

Earlier the union group had said 158,000 workers were on strike.

But the Labor Ministry disputes these figures and said only around 37,000 workers were on strike nationwide.

The Ministry of Industry and Energy said the labor unrest over the past two days has cost about 80 billion won ($61 million) in lost production and $40m. in lost exports.

The strikes were called to protest against layoffs and wage cuts which have affected various key industries such as auto manufacturing and shipbuilding.

The layoffs have come in the wake of major shake-ups in the corporate sector, which have seen a rash of bankruptcies and asset sales.

The International Monetary Fund in December arranged a record-breaking $58.35 billion rescue package in exchange for massive restructuring of what was until last year the world's 11th largest economy.

The KCTU said major work sites left idle from early Tuesday included car makers Hyundai Motor Co, Daewoo Heavy Industries Co. and many car parts makers.

Financial unions under the KCTU said they had decided to delay an all-out strike until after July 22.

The KCTU has 74 member unions under its wing representing 13,000 workers in the financial sector.

The country's leading financial-sector union group, which is not under the KCTU, said it had also decided to put off a planned strike.

"We are still talking with the government," said Kong Kwang-kyu, spokesman for the Korean Federation of Bank and Financial Labor Unions.

"We decided to postpone the strike scheduled to begin today until we have a clearer picture of the situation." The federation, which has 114,700 members in 108 unions, belongs to the moderate Federation of Korean Trade Unions (FKTU).

Starr subpoenas head of Clinton security

By RON FOURNIER

WASHINGTON (AP) – In a dramatic escalation of his battle with the Secret Service, Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr has subpoenaed the head of President Bill Clinton's security detail to testify in the Monica Lewinsky investigation, two US government officials yesterday.

Starr's move to compel testimony from Special Agent Larry Cockell was part of a sweeping new attempt to pierce the agency's cloak of confidentiality. At least four uniformed division officers also were subpoenaed, and Starr demanded Secret Service documents detailing Clinton's nighttime whereabouts between 1995 and 1997.

Starr and the Clinton administration are embroiled in a high-stakes court battle to determine whether Secret Service employees can be compelled to divulge what they observe while protecting the president.

Until Tuesday, Starr had been seeking testimony from two uniformed officers and a lawyer, and not any of the plain-clothed agents on the president's elite personal detail.

A federal judge and a three-judge appeals court panel have sided with Starr and ordered the Secret Service testimony, but on Tuesday the Clinton administration appealed the ruling to the full US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Though the issue could be delayed for some time with additional court arguments, Starr pressed ahead with his investigation to see if Secret Service agents might have relevant information about whether the president had an affair with Lewinsky and tried to cover it up.

The subpoena to Cockell sent shock waves through the Secret Service and left officials concerned that subpoenas would be sent to other former heads of Clinton's personal detail, including Lewis Merletti, David Carpenter and Brian Stafford, one official said.

Merletti now is the director of the Secret Service.

Carpenter, a tall gray-haired agent often mistaken for Clinton, left the agency and was appointed by the president to head the State Department's security team and the office of foreign missions. He is awaiting Senate confirmation to the prestigious post, which carries the rank of ambassador.

A third government official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday night that Carpenter had not been subpoenaed and he has not talked to Starr or his office.

A legal source said at least four Secret Service uniform division officers were subpoenaed this week; their access to Clinton is much more limited than plain-clothed agents.

Starr's staff advised the Justice and Treasury departments some time ago that there were additional Secret Service personnel they wanted to subpoena in the Lewinsky case, a senior Justice official said Tuesday.

This official said that Starr's staff felt – that having won two court decisions – they were entitled to go ahead and deliver those subpoenas now.

One of the government officials also confirmed that Starr has subpoenaed records from the Secret Service that would detail Clinton's activities and whereabouts at night on numerous dates between 1995 and 1997. CBS News first reported the request.

Lewinsky began working at the White House as an intern in mid-1995 and transferred to the Pentagon in the spring of 1996, returning to the White House on more than three dozen occasions for visits, mostly to the Oval Office.

Secret Service officials were worried that Starr's actions might have a chilling effect on the relationship between Clinton and his immediate security detail. The president and the detail headed by Cockell will travel to Arkansas and Louisiana this weekend. The Security Service's attorneys have argued that a president will push his security team away and be more vulnerable to attack if he can't trust the agents.

Russia MPs partially approve austerity plan

By NATALIA OLYNEC and ROB URBAN

Moscow (Bloomberg) — Russia's lower house of parliament approved some parts of the government's plan to increase revenue and delayed debate on several key bills needed to meet conditions for $22.6 billion in international loans.

The communist-dominated lower house, the Duma, passed two bills in the government's program yesterday. One redistributes income from land taxes in favor of the federal government and another lowers corporate profit tax on companies which produce products such as gas, oil and electricity, at below cost. Key elements of the government program to be considered today include the third and final vote on a new tax code.

Approval of the new loans by the International Monetary Fund's board on Monday hinges on passage of the government's austerity program. President Boris Yeltsin has said he may decree any pieces of the program that the Duma fails to pass.

"The Duma members themselves are aware of just how high the stakes are," said Sonja Gibbs, chief strategist at Nomura International in London. "The IMF would not have allowed the process to get this far without being quite certain that there would be compliance with their terms."

The Duma also approved the government's new corporate tax law in the second of three required readings. The law reduces the corporate tax to 30 percent from 35% and distributes two-thirds of the tax to the federal government and one-third to the regional government where the company is located.

Anatoly Chubais, Russia's lead negotiator in the IMF talks, said he expects the Duma to approve the necessary measures — including a critical change in personal income tax that would boost revenue by more than 20 billion rubles ($3.2 billion) a year — by tomorrow.

"It will probably be worked out after today and tomorrow's (Duma) session," Chubais said at a press conference. "We must have both loans and a harsh economic reform program, and right now things are working out." The government's intent is to shift the tax burden from companies to consumers to encourage economic growth, and to collect far more taxes from individuals, many of whom dodge taxes.

If the Duma doesn't finish work on the program by tomorrow, it may delay its vacation by a day and extend the session through tomorrow.

The IMF board will meet next Monday to vote on the loan, and approval will depend on Russia living up to its part of the agreement, IMF officials said. If approved, Russia would receive the first $5.6 billion installment of the loan next week, part of $14.8 billion this year.

The promised loan, which would alleviate a cash shortage that threatened to force the government to devalue or default on its debt payments, pushed Russian stocks and bonds higher yesterday, with the benchmark RTS stock index gaining 16.83%, and the yield on the three-month Treasury bill dropping 71 percentage points to 53.73.

Stocks rose again today, with the benchmark RTS index up 3.76% at 190.56 at the close.

The Duma voted today on several bills that aren't included in the austerity program.

The Duma also approved in the second of three required votes a single tax for small businesses that's designed to increase tax collection by cutting down on tax evasion and simplifying procedures for tax payment. Under the law, small businesses will be subject to a single 20% tax to be paid in advance on estimated sales rather than to the current multitude of taxes.

The Duma passed in the final reading a law regulating the sale by the regions of debt securities.

It also adopted in a final reading a draft law on foreign investment in Russia that guarantees protection of foreign investors' rights and interests and details terms for their commercial ventures, the Interfax news agency said.

The Duma rejected in the second of three votes a proposed 5% sales tax in the regions and sent it to a committee for revision.

"Much depends on the State Duma — we are counting on the fact that a majority of the laws will be supported," said Finance Minister Mikhail Zadornov in an address to the Duma.

"The loan has given us a small breathing space," Zadornov said. "With the help of the money, the central bank will support the foreign currency reserves." Facing weekly debt payments of more than $1 billion, central bank reserves have dwindled by more than $4 billion since the first of the year to $13.5 billion, including gold.

Debt payments total almost $30 billion for the rest of this year. The IMF said it still would consider approving the loan even if Yeltsin has to order promised reforms into law by decree.



Russia to re-bury last czar

A Russian soldier stands guard near the sarcophagus containing the bones of Nicholas II, Russia's last czar, at the municipal morgue in the Urals city of Yekaterinburg yesterday. The remains of the czar, his relatives and servants are to be transferred to St Petersburg for a state burial Friday. (AP)

Two US teens to lose virginity on the net

By MARK EGAN

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) – In what is being billed as yet another first for the Internet, two 18-year-olds say they will lose their virginity on their own Web site for all the wired world to see.

The couple, calling themselves Diane and Mike, will have sex for the first time at 9 p.m. EDT on August 4, with a camera broadcasting the event free over the Internet, their lawyer Mark Vega said on Tuesday.

Vega said the plan was to "keep this as grass-roots and intimate as possible. It just takes one camera and you can invite the entire web to where you're at."

He declined to name the two or say where they live, but pictures of them with their faces blacked out have been posted on the Web site (www.ourfirsttime.com).

The site, which includes a discussion room providing net surfers a place to offer their opinions, will follow the couple's preparations.

Vega said the idea for the event was Diane's, inspired by her beliefs in freedom of speech and action. He added that she was also inspired by seeing a birth on-line last month.

But some surfers visiting the slickly-packaged site were sceptical about the couple's motives. Some posted messages suggesting they might charge money later, or take sponsorship.

Web surfers were also concerned that the couple looked too perfect and well developed to be average 18-year-olds.

Vega said the site was not about making money and that it was being funded by free speech advocates whom he declined to name. He said no company was sponsoring the event and declined to say how much the Web site cost to construct.

Vega said that among the scheduled events would be the couple taking out condoms. He said the site will likely offer a link to another site (www.condomania.com) but that no money would change hands for the putting the link on the site.

He said the couple were "free individuals" and so he could not rule out the possibility that they may exploit their new-found fame by selling their story but said "that's just not was this is about." The lawyer also insisted the couple were 18 and "were virgins to the best of my knowledge."

For years people have been sharing their most intimate moments on the Internet, where taboos are few.

Last month a Florida woman gave birth to a boy in a live on-line delivery before an audience of two million people. The broadcast was billed as an educational event.

"We want to show that the act of making love, which is the first step that brought that live birth about, is just as beautiful and nothing to be ashamed about," the young couple wrote on their Web site.

An opinion poll included in the site showed 61 percent of respondents agreed with their decision to go public with their private life while 38% disagreed.

Colin Denham offered this advice: "Good luck Mike ... your first time, I'd be real worried. You could be blacklisting yourself as a bad shag for life. Alternatively you might be great, but I'd stock up on Viagra just in case." The site describes the couple as recent high school graduates looking forward to college in the fall. It adds that these "typical All-American kids" are active churchgoers.

They have not yet told their parents of their plans, Vega said, adding that Diane's parents are liberal but Mike's father is a minister.

The pictures of the cuddling couple on the Web site do not show their faces because "it is anticipated that there will be some religious groups and people who will try to stop Diane and Mike from completing their statement."

Vega said hackers had already attempted to dismantle the site to stop net surfers from tuning in.

Confusion reigns as deadline nears for UN war-crime court

By PAUL TAYLOR

ROME (Reuters) – Two days before a United Nations conference is due to adopt the statute of a permanent world court to try war criminals, no one knows how strong the tribunal will be, where its jurisdiction will run or even whether it will come into existence at all.

"We have reached the point of maximum confusion," a European diplomat said yesterday. "We are into the final horse-trading, and it's getting very dirty."

At issue is not just whether an International Criminal Court (ICC) will be empowered to try genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes, but also who decides what cases are investigated and who has to consent to a prosecution.

Human rights groups say proposals backed by the US and France would mean that dictators would have to give their permission to their own prosecution.

"Apply that to the real world and no Pol Pots or Saddam Husseins will ever come before this court," said Richard Dicker, spokesman for Human Rights Watch.

There are still wild-card issues that could trip up the conference, such as India's insistence that the use of nuclear weapons be declared a war crime, demands by Turkey, Sri Lanka, India and others for terrorism and drug crimes to be added, and the Non-Aligned Movement's call for the statute to eventually include the crime of aggression.

Diplomats said France, the only European Union state that wants tighter limits on the court, was even floating the idea of adjourning the conference rather than see it collapse or reach an unacceptable conclusion.

The US, which has the most widely deployed troops overseas, has used extraordinary arm-twisting on its own closest allies into accepting tight limits on the court's powers that would guarantee that no US soldier could ever face indictment.

Washington warned both Germany and North Korea — two of the proponents of the farthest reaching powers for the court — that it would reconsider its overseas troop commitment in Europe and East Asia if their ideas were adopted, diplomats said.

Despite Pentagon denials, US Defense Secretary William Cohen not only raised that prospect with his German and South Korean counterparts, but the Defense Department then faxed his talking points to their ministries to underline the message.

"They are using the heavy steamroller, threatening allies on troops, using aid as a lever with certain developing countries," a neutral diplomat said.

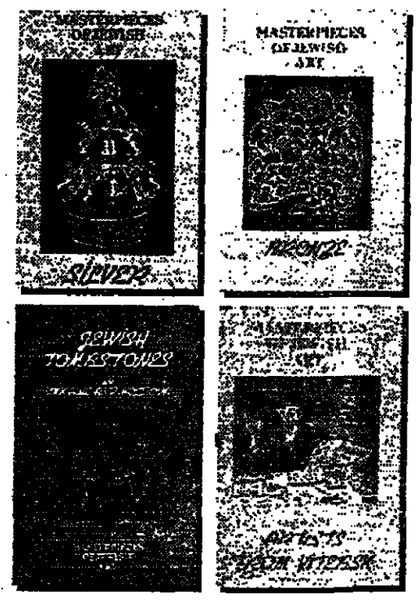
While Germany has stood firm and resisted all efforts to prevent the ICC having automatic jurisdiction over all three core crimes, the South Koreans are feeling the heat.

"We have between 95 and 99 percent of the statute already agreed," a European Union diplomat said. "We have achieved unprecedented progress on all sorts of issues that would have been unthinkable a few years ago. The United Nations has spent $100 million on this conference and got this close. It would be absurd and out of this world not to conclude now."

Lesser US pressure has been applied in the last few days on many of the so-called "like-minded states" which want a strong court with an independent prosecutor, including Canada, the Netherlands, Senegal and several Latin American states, diplomats and human rights groups reported.

But they appear to be holding firm and seem determined to launch the court even if the Americans refuse to sign.

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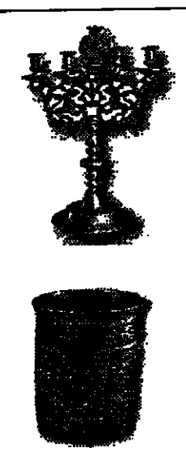
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The return of Richard Holbrooke

By MARK MATTHEWS

WASHINGTON – A few years ago, Richard Holbrooke's dominant, even overbearing, personality got him cut out of the center of power. Now it's dealing him back in.

In 1995, when he was the State Department official responsible for Europe, Holbrooke found himself excluded from key strategy sessions intended to end the war in Bosnia, at least in part because of his abrasive style.

But once the course was set, Holbrooke became the point man, pressuring and pummeling the Bosnian Moslems, Serbs and Croats into a deal – the Dayton Accords – that ended the worst ethnic violence in Europe since World War II and finally won respect for President Clinton's international leadership.

Now, Holbrooke's powerful persona and penchant for the spotlight are in demand again, this time to rebuild American influence at the United Nations. Tapped by Clinton as ambassador to the world body, Holbrooke, 57, is expected also to raise the UN's profile with members of Congress and the American public at a time when it is under sharp assault.

Moreover, the job carries Cabinet rank, giving Holbrooke a leg up to become secretary of state if Al Gore is elected president in 2000.

Questions persist, however, about Holbrooke's willingness to serve as a team player. His shouting matches and tendency to try to dominate meetings are legendary.

"The UN is a global platform that gives an activist individual a lot of room to play," says John Bolton, a former assistant secretary of state in charge of international organizations. "That can cause problems for a secretary of state." Madeleine K. Albright, who bested Holbrooke in the competition to become Clinton's second-term secretary of state, welcomes him to the table as an activist soulmate who believes in the idea of diplomacy backed by force. But she has noted pointedly that Holbrooke will be working for her and urged him privately to avoid public statements that conflict with the State Department line.

The rough-and-tumble, head-knocking skills he displayed at Dayton don't fit the UN, says a high-ranking US diplomat.

"The UN environment is one of building consensus," this diplomat said. "It requires enormous tact and subtlety." Holbrooke's magic failed him in two recent diplomatic forays – to dampen the ongoing crisis between Greek and Turkish Cypriots and to end a new wave of Balkan fighting, this time in the volatile Serbian province of Kosovo.

His heavy reliance on the pragmatism of Yugoslavia's president, Slobodan Milosevic, has invited complaints that Holbrooke has played down Milosevic's role as the man who inspired the murderous Serbian aggression. Holbrooke says he works with Milosevic because the Yugoslav leader can deliver.



Richard Holbrooke runs through pouring rain to talk with local leaders in Pristina earlier this month. After suffering setbacks, the veteran diplomat's powerful persona and penchant for the spotlight are in demand again. (AP)

"Holbrooke made Milosevic his partner at Dayton, but that was after NATO force had backed US diplomacy," said John Fox, who heads the Washington office of the Open Society Institute, funded by philanthropist George Soros. "Now we have Holbrooke and Milosevic without NATO – there's a big difference." Holbrooke's allies note that he is just one of several US diplomats seeking a Kosovo solution, and insist that NATO is ready to act if called upon.

Holbrooke learned a bitter lesson in diplomatic timing in 1968, when, as a 26-year-old foreign service officer, he joined the Paris team headed by W. Averell Harriman and Cyrus Vance seeking a negotiated end to the Vietnam War.

Despite repeated urging by his negotiators, President Lyndon B. Johnson waited until the week before the 1968 presidential election to stop the bombing of North Vietnam. No peace agreement was reached.

Holbrooke's own chance to end a war came three decades later, long after his years as Peace Corps director in Morocco, managing editor of the journal *Foreign Policy*, his first political appointment as an assistant secretary of state for East Asia in the Carter administration and a lucrative career as a New York investment banker.

After seeing the Bosnian war firsthand on visits in 1992, Holbrooke hoped to broker peace there after Clinton's election.

Instead he became ambassador to Germany, where he performed with panache, and oversaw Clinton's successful 1994 visit to Berlin.

"I think he is one of the most effective guns in the American arsenal," says Josef Joffe, editorial-page editor of the German newspaper *Suddeutsche Zeitung*. "He's an asset of strength in American diplomacy."

Summoned to Washington as assistant secretary of state for European Affairs in 1994, Holbrooke lobbied unsuccessfully for greater force by NATO as leverage against Bosnian Serb aggression. The next summer, he talked about quitting.

"As the administration deliberated, the Bosnian Serbs attacked," Holbrooke writes in his memoir, *To End a War*. It took a massacre of thousands of Moslems in Srebrenica – "the biggest single mass murder in Europe since World War II" – to galvanize the United States and its allies into a determined effort to end the war.

His book lavishes praise on a number of colleagues, including some with whom he is likely to work in the future. Holbrooke describes Gore's top national security adviser, Leon Fuerth, as "one of those powerful but rarely seen people who play major roles behind the scene in Washington."

But Holbrooke left a bad taste in the mouths of some White House officials by resigning in early 1996 to join his new wife in New York and resume a high-paying investment-banking career, leaving the complex and crucial task of carrying out the Dayton accords to State Department subordinates. Without his leadership, a year was lost, during which the fragile peace almost came undone.

However, Holbrooke supporters say he made his plans to leave office known well in advance and that others should have been able to follow through on Dayton.

Holbrooke declined an interview request, saying he would not contribute to profile articles while awaiting Senate confirmation. (Baltimore Sun)

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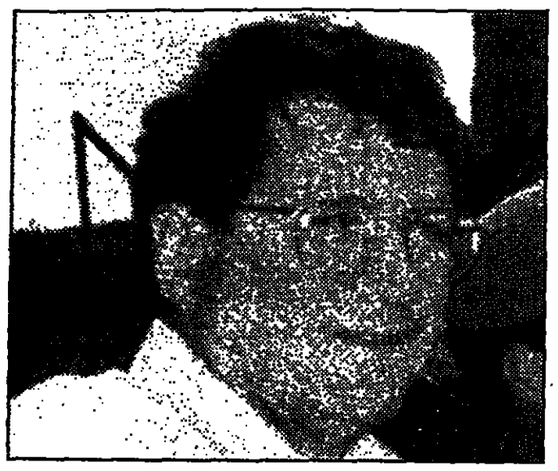
By Shimshon Arad

For students of history, as for those engaged in directing or in practicing diplomacy, Richard Holbrooke's book on his involvement in the Bosnian war and in the efforts to end it, is a most revealing and instructive document. We tend to forget that between 1991 and 1995, close to 300,000 people were killed in the former Yugoslavia. The international response to this catastrophe was "at best uncertain and at worst appalling." While both the US and the European Union initially considered the Balkan wars as "a European problem," the Europeans chose not to take a strong stand, restricting themselves to dispatching UN "peacekeepers" to a country where there was no peace to keep.

Holbrooke's account was written from the perspective of an active participant. He began his diplomatic career in Vietnam in 1962 when he was 21. At the age of 36 he was nominated assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs. For over a year he served as ambassador in Germany, and returned to Washington in 1994 to become assistant secretary of state for European affairs. It was in that post that he was assigned to cope with the Bosnian conflagration, leading to Dayton, where for 21 days he led a brilliant intensive-care operation on the presidents of Serbia, Croatia and Bosnia, culminating in a peace agreement and the cessation of hostilities.

The crux of Holbrooke's account is the dramatic story of how one forces a historic course on a situation that might otherwise have deteriorated to abyss, death and misery. Sitting on the fence was not only a European propensity. It was also the preferred track for many American politicians and diplomats and the military. Bringing Washington to assume a more active role in Bosnia through synchronized diplomatic and military measures was Holbrooke's major achievement. He would not have managed to do that had he not been backed by the key players in the Clinton administration. But only with the initiative and stamina of a seasoned workhorse, only with the confidence and support of the president and of Warren Christopher, could Holbrooke pull this off.

Overcoming the internal American bickering, soothing inflated French egos and Italian jealousy, and cultivating senior



Richard Holbrooke (Rosemarie Pauli)

UN officials, would not have produced the tenuous Dayton agreement if the Russians had maintained a hostile stance to the Bosnian deal. In the end, not only did the Russians moderate their suspicions but they even gave their consent to the unprecedented deployment of Russian troops in Bosnia under American command as part of a "NATO-led peacekeeping force."

Referring to an article he published early in 1995 in *Foreign Affairs*, Holbrooke cites his judgment that Yugoslavia was "the greatest collective security failure of the West since the 1930s." In the book he says that Yugoslavia represents a failure of historic dimensions and asks why and how it happened "just at the moment of the West's great triumph over Communism." He then suggests five major factors that help explain the tragedy. Of the five, the end of the Cold War and the behavior of the Yugoslav leaders themselves coupled, as it were, with the inadequate American response, determined the fate of Yugoslavia.

Of the three Balkan leaders – Milosevic of Serbia, Tudjman of Croatia, and Izetbegovic of Bosnia-Herzegovina – the toughest was Milosevic. He was smart, charming and evasive. Despite his cleverness, he was "playing word games devoid of substance." The essential goal for Milosevic was to get the sanctions lifted at no cost. Knowing that obviously gave the Americans the necessary lever to persuade the Serbian president to play ball.

Doing business with Tudjman was somewhat easier, especially following the reaching of the Bosnian-Croat understanding. Izetbegovic appears to be a very complex but interesting person. He is a devout Moslem, "although not the Bosnian ayatollah." Although he paid lip service to the principles of a multiethnic state, "he was not the democrat that some supporters in the West saw." The most exasperating experiences with him were caused by his repeated inability to stick to and honor agreements. Almost in every phase, his foreign minister or his prime minister would disavow agreements earlier reached. It therefore required a firm stand and sometimes an ultimatum to force Izetbegovic to keep his commitments. The same irritating tactics continued all through the Dayton negotiations; and more than once, the help of Christopher and Clinton had to be enlisted in order to get the Bosnians to be reasonable.

The refusal of the Bush administration to commit American power early in the Bosnian crisis contributed considerably to Milosevic's tough stand and to the low esteem of the West. Secretary of state James Baker, who showed leadership and courage in the Middle East, failed terribly in the Balkan case. He said at the time: "We don't have a dog in this fight." The CNN pictures of death and the destruction of Sarajevo, the horrible stories of "cleansing" operations by the Serbs and the Croats, and the tragic death of three senior US officials in Bosnia shifted sentiment and crystallized resolve. The US could no longer remain aloof. That was how the Holbrooke mission was born. Fact-finding first, and possible action and direct involvement subsequently.

Two international officials are singled out by Holbrooke as the ones who at the right moment had the guts to take a bold decision and authorize the effective and sustained bombing of Serbian positions in Bosnia, thus facilitating the diplomatic breakthrough with Milosevic. They are Kofi Annan, who was then in charge of UN peacekeeping operations, and Willy Claes, who was at the time NATO's secretary-general.

Boutros-Ghali, the UN secretary-general at the time, failed to demonstrate the boldness required under fire. That was the main reason for the US's opposition to his reelection, while Kofi Annan's fortitude in authorizing the bombing won him the job as secretary-general of the UN. Holbrooke maintains that, had it not been for Claes's firm stand, the Europeans would have blocked or minimized the bombing and thereby weakened the leverage necessary for breaking the impasse.

Using military force to achieve diplomatic breakthrough was not invented by Holbrooke, but he applied this mechanism very aptly. Once the US showed a firm policy, Milosevic had no chance of removing the hateful sanctions without making the adequate concessions to achieve peace. The overall coordination of policy in Washington was quite impressive, but there were many faults and failures in the process. Holbrooke pays the highest praise to the constructive contribution of Christopher in the Bosnian crisis. Those who were not always impressed by his performance in the Middle East during his last six months in office, might be surprised to find these generous comments on his role in the Balkans.

The Dayton agreement shook the leadership elite of post-Cold War Europe. The Europeans were grateful to the US for leading the effort that finally ended the war in Bosnia, but some Europeans were embarrassed that American involvement had been necessary. On paper, sums up the author, Dayton was a good agreement – it terminated the war and established a single, multiethnic country. But a short time later, the passive policy of the NATO command, including the American generals, and their reluctance to enforce decisively all the clauses of the agreement, encouraged those Serbs – like Karadzic and General Mladic – who hated Dayton, to start again with their nefarious acts. Measures had to be taken once again to force Milosevic to stop these acts of sedition.

The book ends before the new-old Kosovo flashpoint emerged. Holbrooke was called back from his Wall Street retirement to go to Belgrade and try to settle the conflict.

He has recently been nominated US ambassador to the UN, which will ensure his being at the center of American diplomacy, and not only in the Balkans.

Cahill's 'Gifts' honors Judaism

By Mary Rourke

Talking to a stranger in an Irish pub, Thomas Cahill learned to keep quiet about books he has in the works.

"What do you do?" he asked the man beside him.

"I'm a writer."

"What have you written?"

"I haven't written anything."

Cahill told the story to a gathering at a bookstore in Los Angeles who asked about his own plans for a series of books he has in the works. His latest, *The Gifts of the Jews* (Doubleday), is the second in the set called "Hinges of History." The first was *How the Irish Saved Civilization* (Doubleday, 1995), which makes it hard to predict the next logical step.

As invitations to speak fill Cahill's calendar, most of them from Jewish community centers around the US, there's this other question to ask: Why would a book about Judaism written by an Irish Catholic appeal to Jews?

"Unalloyed admiration," he guesses.

It's true, his enthusiasm is showing. "The Jews," he writes, "were the first people to find a new way of thinking and experiencing, a new way of understanding and feeling the world, so much so that it may be said with some justice that theirs is the only new idea human beings have ever had."

He does, though, have other credentials. Cahill was director of religious publishing for Doubleday in the 1980s. Before he wrote *The Gifts of the Jews*, he studied Scripture at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, where he lives, went to the deserts of the Middle East to walk through the beginnings of Jewish history and learned Hebrew so he could read the Bible in that language.

Was his hair as silver before all of that? He says he "busted a gasket" studying Hebrew and found that brute memorization was easier when he was 17 than now in his mid-50s.

But none of it was wasted energy. Like the dinner partner who makes you feel you are the most fascinating person at the table, he has twisted brains, wit, charm, scholar's muscles and traveler's memories toward his subject with undivided attention.

"I tried for several years to live with the people of the Bible," he says. "Finally, I could see Abraham's tent in the desert heat."

The gifts, he decided, come down to two: The Jews were the first in human history to claim individual freedom, and to presume that they could make the future better than the past. "There is a direct link between the ancient Jews and the American Declaration of Independence," Cahill says.

Abraham, father of the clan, took the first step toward independence when he answered a voice he heard in the desert, telling him to leave his home and go where he would be led. He asked who was speaking and heard, "Yahweh," one of several Hebrew names for God.

Until that night, Abraham was like everybody else in ancient Mesopotamia who saw things as predictable and out of control. "Life was a wheel, and there was no escape," Cahill says. "You were born fated. Nothing new was supposed to happen. But this one little desert tribe decided not to see life that way."

After his conversation with God, things changed for Abraham and his descendants. He fathered two sons in his 90s, and his wife, Sarah, was almost as old when she attracted an amorous king. A city exploded in fire before his eyes, a nephew's wife turned to a pillar of salt, a grandson wrestled with an angel all night, an army drowned in the sea chasing his followers. Things went on like that for centuries. "A new notion of time changed Abraham," Cahill says. "Time became real because the future became real, and unpredictable. Since then in the West we don't believe everything is fated. We make our own fate.



(Los Angeles Times/Clarence William)

Thomas Cahill

"Once you've been there, you can't go back to a cyclical view of the world. You aren't part of a wheel, you are an individual. A human life has value."

Maybe life is easier when everything seems inevitable. "You can be at peace if you believe this is all supposed to happen," Cahill suggests. "We have much more trouble in the West because we don't believe it. That's why we have violence. People on the bottom think things can be better, and a lot of our conflicts are a result of it."

To see life as a procession, not a circle, was like bracing a turbine to Jewish history. "A sense of time and individuality produces a sense of accomplishment," Cahill says. "We can safely say the Jews have won that derby." Thirty percent of Nobel Prize winners are Jews, who account for one-quarter of one percent of the world's population, Cahill notes.

His book is a cultural history more than a study of how the Bible was made, but Cahill does refer to the views of progressive Scripture scholars.

He describes the Book of Ruth, about a friendship between two women, as one probably written by a woman, and says the first 50 Psalms are probably by King David, Israel's second king. He writes about "mahn-hu," translated as "bread," in no romantic terms.

"It was probably white edible insect secretions to be found on the branches of some rare Sinai plants," he explains of the food the Israelites lived on as they walked across the desert.

"Most of what I wrote is a consensus of contemporary Scripture scholars," he says. "The trouble is that no one [else] gets to read about it. Scholars talk to one another, not other people."

As a Christian learning to read the Bible like a Jew, Cahill discovered a new way of looking at the book.

"For Jews, the Bible is the family document," he says. "They read with a sense of authority. I don't think Christians have ever been as comfortable with it.

"Protestants and Catholics want to take up a section, get an answer to the question, 'What does this mean?' and move on. They are unwilling to live with the ambiguities that Scripture contains."

While he was studying Jewish history, he studied publishing trends to figure out the secret to successful sales. "People's interest in religion is constant, but their way of expressing it changes," he says. "Until the '60s, Jews read religious books by Jews, Catholics read Catholics. Now, it's no longer denominational."

His best teacher was M. Scott Peck, whose spiritual self-help book, *The Road Less Traveled*, published in 1978, was a bestseller for more than 10 years. "It was the great religious publishing phenomenon of the last decade because it combined religion and psychology," he says.

"I tried to combine modern psychology with ancient spirituality."

(Los Angeles Times)

STEIMATZKY'S
BESTSELLING PAPERBACKS

1. Materese Countdown by Robert Ludlum. HarperCollins, Bantam.
2. To Love, Honour & Betray by Penny Jordan. Mira.
3. The Mark of Cain by Ram Oren. Keshet.
4. The Winner by David Baldacci. Warner, Pocket.
5. Survival of the Fittest by Jonathan Kellerman. Bantam, Warner.
6. Second Love by Judith Gould. Warner.
7. Sisterhood by Colin Forbes. Pan.
8. Best Laid Plans by Sidney Sheldon. Warner, HarperCollins.
9. Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt. Touchstone.
10. Angel of Darkness by Caleb Carr. Ballantine, Warner.

BOOK BYTES

Denise Giardina, 46, spent her first 13 years in Black Wolf, a ten-house coal camp in southern West Virginia. As a girl she read mostly historical fiction and Shakespeare, and heard coal miners' stories about the land and their work underground. Her first novels, *Storming Heaven* and *The Unquiet Earth*, were firmly grounded in the Appalachian Mountains, and *Good King Harry* was a historical novel based on Henry V. So how did Giardina come to write a novel about the life of German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, who was hanged in 1945 for his part in a plot to resist Hitler?

After completing a degree in history at Wesleyan College in 1973, Giardina drifted from job to job and place to place until she found her home in the Episcopal Church, where she was ordained a deacon in 1979. Around that time, she was given a book of Bonhoeffer's writings. Over the next 20 years she became obsessed with the question of "how people of conscience deal with compromises they have to make." *Saints and Villains* (Norton) is the first novel Giardina has written in the third person. She also shifts from past tense to present tense in the final scenes to amplify the suspense created by the advancing Allied forces during Bonhoeffer's last days. And she has adopted a straightforward voice: "I wanted to write a book a coal miner could read. Just 'cause it's accessible doesn't mean it hasn't got depth. I wanted the story itself to carry the depth, rather than the density of the language."

STEVEN SPIELBERG and his media company DreamWorks will combine with Penguin in a multi-million dollar deal to produce 21 classic animated films with tie-in books for children. Among the high-profile authors participating in the project are Lynne Reid Banks, Madeleine L'Engle and Jane Yolen. The first title to be released will be *The Prince of Egypt*, a retelling of the story of Moses. *The Ants*, with Woody Allen doing the voice-over of an ant who wants to be different, and *Eldorado*, about two scoundrels in a quest for the legendary city of gold, are set to follow.

DARCY O'BRIEN'S last book was *The Hidden Pope: The Untold Story of a Lifelong Friendship that is Changing the Relationship Between Catholics and Jews: The Personal Journey of John Paul II and Jerzy Kluger* (Daybreak). O'Brien, 59, died of a heart attack in March on the eve of the book's publication. The book outlines how the Pope and Kluger forged diplomatic ties between the Vatican and Israel.

THE DATE for the 19th Biennial Jerusalem International Book Fair has been set for 20-25 June, 1999 – a later date than usual in order not to clash with other international fairs. The theme of next year's fair is "Books That Changed the 20th Century."

WINN SCHWARTAU, computer security expert and writer of the first cyber novel (available only on the Internet at www.infowar.com), has given talks at dozens of high security US military installations. He recalls: "In one super-classified building that doesn't officially exist, two armed guards were assigned to me with the edict, 'if he gets within twenty feet of a computer, shoot.' Damn good thing the men's room used manual flushers!"

David Brauner

The New York Times BESTSELLERS

HARDCOVER *Fiction*

1. I Know This Much is True by Wally Lamb. (Regan Books/Harper Collins $27.50.) A troubled man must care for his schizophrenic identical twin brother and face the nightmares of their family.
2. The Klone and I by Danielle Steel (Delacorte $17.95.). A woman believes she has found Mr. Right, a hi-tech expert, then is amazed to meet his clone.
3. Summer Sisters by Judy Blume. (Delacorte $21.95.) Two young women from very different backgrounds come of age together on Martha's Vineyard.
4. Bridget Jones's Diary by Helen Fielding. (Viking $22.95.) A year in the life of a thirtysomething female.
5. Unspeakable by Sandra Brown. (Warner $25.) A psychotic killer, returning to his Texas hometown to wreak vengeance, uses a troubled widow as his pawn.
6. A Widow for One Year by John Irving. (Random House $27.95.) A look at the complex emotional life of a writer and single mother.
7. Low Country by Anne Rivers Siddons. (HarperCollins $25.) A South Carolina woman's life reaches a crisis when her husband considers turning her inherited island into a resort.
8. Message in a Bottle by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner $20.) After finding a seabome bottle containing an enigmatic letter, a divorced woman encounters love.
9. The Street Lawyer by John Grisham. (Doubleday $27.95.) A young lawyer comes to terms with himself after discovering his prestigious firm's dirty secret.
10. Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden. (Knopf $25.) The life of a young woman born in Kyoto who has to reinvent herself after WWII begins.

HARDCOVER *Non-fiction*

1. A Pirate Looks at Fifty by Jimmy Buffett. (Random House $24.95.) While traveling from the Florida Keys to the Amazon, the singer-songwriter reflects on his half-century of life.
2. Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom. (Doubleday $19.95.) A sportswriter tells of his weekly visits to his old college mentor, who was near death's door.
3. A Monk Swimming by Malachy McCourt (Hyperion $23.95.) The writer and actor (and brother of Frank McCourt) recalls his life in America and Ireland.
4. A Walk in the Woods by Bill Bryson. (Broadway $25.) A journalist finds beauty and humor while hiking the Appalachian trail.
5. Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt. (Scribner $24.) An Irish-American writer recalls his childhood amid the miseries of Limerick.
6. Titan by Ron Chernow. (Random House $30.) The life of John D. Rockefeller Sr.
7. We Are Our Mothers' Daughters by Cokie Roberts. (Morrow $19.95.) The television news anchor's personal reflections on women in politics and business and as mothers, wives, sisters and friends.
8. The Millionaire Next Door by Thomas J. Stanley and William D. Danko. (Longstreet $22.) An analysis of the lives of wealthy Americans discloses that they have seven characteristics in common.
9. The Gifts of the Jews by Thomas Cahill. (Talese/Doubleday $23.50.) What Western civilization owes an ancient tribe.
10. Ship of Gold in the Deep Blue Sea by Gary Kinder. (Atlantic Monthly $27.50.) An account of the wreck of a side-wheeler off the Carolina coast in 1857 and the efforts of a group to recover its treasure in 1989.

PAPERBACK *Fiction*

1. Unnatural Exposure by Patricia Cornwell. (Berkley $7.99.) Dr. Kay Scarpetta contends with a killer who uses a smallpox-like virus and cyberspace tricks.
2. Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood by Rebecca Wells. (Harper Perennial $13.50.) Three generations of Southern women.
3. Fat Tuesday by Sandra Brown. (Warner Vision $7.99.) A cop and a sinister attorney's wife go on a tear in New Orleans during Mardi Gras.
4. She's Come Undone by Wally Lamb. (Pocket $7.99.) A woman's harrowing progress from youth to middle age.
5. The Horse Whisperer by Nicholas Evans. (Dell $7.50.) A woman seeks solace for her daughter and their horse from a wrangler.
6. The Angel of Darkness by Caleb Carr. (Ballantine $7.99.) The pursuit of the kidnapper of a Spanish diplomat's child in 1897 Manhattan.
7. The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy. (Harper Perennial $13.) Death and secrets haunt a once-prosperous family in India.
8. Orphans: Butterfly and Crystal by V.C. Andrews. (Pocket $3.99.) A troubled orphan is adopted by a couple who hope she will become a ballerina.
9. The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks. (Warner Vision $5.99.) A WWII veteran meets an old flame who is about to be married.
10. Up Island by Anne Rivers Siddons. (Harper Paperbacks $6.99.) An Atlanta woman, after a bad marriage and the death of her mother, seeks a new life in Martha's Vineyard.

PAPERBACK *Non-fiction*

1. The Perfect Storm by Sebastian Junger. (Harper Paperbacks $6.99.) The story of the nor'easter of 1991, focusing on a crew of fishermen from Gloucester, Mass.
2. Into Thin Air by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday $7.99.) A journalist's account of his ascent on Mt. Everest in 1996, the deadliest season in history.
3. Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes. (Broadway $13.) A celebration of life in the Italian countryside by an American poet.
4. Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer. (Anchor/Doubleday $12.95.) A young man's obsession with the wilderness has a tragic end in Alaska.
5. The Color of Water by James McBride. (Riverhead $12.) A black writer and musician recalls growing up with his white mother in a Brooklyn housing project.
6. Brain Droppings by George Carlin. (Hyperion $10.95.) Comments on life by the stand-up comedian.
7. Wait Till Next Year by Doris Kearns Goodwin. (Touchstone/S&S $13.) Recollections of a '50s girlhood on Long Island, in the orbit of the Brooklyn Dodgers.
8. Personal History by Katharine Graham. (Vintage $15.) The autobiography of the former publisher of *The Washington Post*.
9. A Child Called "It" by Dave Pelzer. (Health Communications $9.95.) The autobiography of a man who survived his mother's abuse.
10. Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas by Hunter S. Thompson. (Vintage $11.) The gonzo journalist's 1971 account of a drug-addled road trip.

PAPERBACK *Miscellaneous*

1. Dr. Atkins' New Diet Revolution by Robert C. Atkins. (Avon $6.50.) Ways to lose weight and achieve a healthy body.
2. Don't Sweat the Small Stuff... and It's All Small Stuff by Richard Carlson. (Hyperion $8.95.) How to enjoy life more and contribute to the world we live in.
3. The Beanie Baby Handbook 1998 by Les Fox and Sue Fox. (West Highland $6.95.) A guide.
4. Chicken Soup for the Teenage Soul compiled by Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen, and Kimberly Kirberger (Health Communications $12.95.) Inspirational stories.

HARCOVER *Miscellaneous*

1. Sugar Busters by H. Leighton Steward et al. (Ballantine $22.) A diet designed for losing weight, increasing energy and combating disease.
2. The 9 Steps to Financial Freedom by Suze Orman. (Crown $23.) Ways to manage your money now and in the future.
3. Marilu Henner's Total Health Makeover by Marilu Henner with Laura Morton. (Regan Books/Harper Collins $24.) Promoting fitness and vitality.
4. Mars and Venus Starting Over by John Gray. (HarperCollins $25.) Counsel for men and women following a breakup, divorce, or the loss of a loved one.

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem 91000 Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9527. CIRCULATION— 02-531-5610, 177-022-2278, Fax 02-538-9017. ADVERTISING - 02-531-5608, 02-531-5638-40 Fax 02-538-8408. TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasger, POB 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333, Fax 6390277. Published daily except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1998, Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system, *or in any other form*, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN-DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS, 1992-1996 DAVID BAR-ILLAN
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An unhealthy proposal

A tax, according to *Oxford's*, is a contribution levied on persons, property or businesses *for support of public services*, either directly or indirectly.

Thus, a payment levied on residents on a monthly basis, or for visits to doctors or hospital outpatient clinics is a *tax* — even if Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman decline to call it that.

The government has doggedly refused to recognize these "co-payments" as a tax because it *committed itself, in George Bush's* "read my lips" style, not to raise taxes.

But with the burgeoning NIS 1.4 billion deficit in the national health insurance system, and the imminent collapse of the four public health funds unless they're bailed out, a Rube Goldberg-like contraption was dreamed up by the Treasury, and timidly supported by Health Minister Yehoshua Matza, who had initially (and, behind closed doors, vocally) opposed the scheme.

The deficit was accumulated in part by hefty wage increases granted to health workers by the Labor government, and the failure of both Labor and Likud finance and health ministers to prevent the health funds from going on a wild spending spree — building luxurious new facilities everywhere and hiring contractors to lure members with presents and false promises.

Finance Ministry officials undoubtedly sighed in relief yesterday, when the Knesset Finance Committee voted by a meager eight-to-seven margin in favor of the co-payment plan. It's not over yet: Opponents will get a re-vote on Monday, and one would hope that committee members will sober up and give the whole issue more serious consideration.

But as it stands now, as of September 1, all residents — who already pay 4.8% of their gross monthly income on health taxes, plus more for supplementary health insurance, dental care, medications, geriatric nursing care and private medicine — will have to pay their health fund an extra fee each month, whether they require medical care or not.

In addition, those unfortunate enough to be *sick would have to pay user taxes for visits to* community clinic doctors, hospital clinics and physiotherapists.

This is exactly what was abolished by the national health insurance system, which in 1995 established an equitable and progressive tax framework in which everybody, well or sick, gets a basic basket of health services in return for a progressive tax on income.

Under the co-payment scheme, every adult would be charged NIS 20 a month by the health fund, plus NIS 5 for each of the first three children, for a maximum household payment of NIS 55. Exactly how this would be collected is unclear, as not everyone has a standing order *with the bank to pay their health fund supplementary* insurance fees.

The poor, the chronically ill and large families would get partial exemptions. This means that Kupat Holim Clalit, which will have the most exempt members, can be expected to demand compensation from the government or do all it could to discourage needy people from remaining as members.

There would also be a NIS 10 to NIS 20 fee per quarter for visits to each health fund doctor, and a NIS 20 charge for going to a hospital outpatient clinic. This, the government claims, would discourage "unnecessary" medical consultations and "promote a stronger bond" between the patient and his primary physician.

This scheme is ridden with holes. In the future, when deficits inevitably grow, the government is sure to pressure the Finance Committee to allow more and higher co-payments – in effect, abrogating the National Health Insurance Law. Thousands of families not granted exemptions are likely to demand inclusion on the basis of their personal situations, overwhelming the health funds' appeals apparatus and, in turn, the Health Ministry's overworked ombudsman's office.

With violence against medical staffers already common in emergency rooms and clinics, demands for extra payments will make the atmosphere more tense. The health funds readily admit that they haven't a clue how fund and hospital doctors will know when each family has reached its quarterly "ceiling." And if it were possible to program this into the computer systems, who would ensure privacy so that a patient's doctor would not know how many and which doctors the patient's spouse or children had seen that quarter? Such an act would clearly violate the Patients' Rights Law.

And how will the ceiling be determined if family members belong to different health funds? It is also unclear how the insurers will respond if members simply refuse to make the co-payments. Can they refuse to give medical treatment?

Even some senior Health Ministry officials privately call the Treasury scheme "unworkable" and "a disaster." The committee must realize this and consider other avenues for covering the health funds' shortfall, possibly by a major increase in tobacco taxes (polls have shown that even smokers would prefer paying more for cigarettes than making co-payments for medical care), or by instituting lower health tax rates for non-smokers. In any case, the cobbled-together plan should be dumped when the committee reconvenes next week.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PRESERVE JEWISH UNITY

Sir, – In a full page ad (June 26), the spiritual leaders of American Reform and Conservative branches of Judaism demand a full legal partnership with the Orthodox chief rabbis in formulating Jewish conversions in Israel in the name of Jewish unity and compromise.

In order to preserve the unity of the Jewish people in Israel from the fate of the "vanishing American Jew," where 50 percent to 60 percent of marriages are with non-Jewish mates, Israel's chief rabbis have wisely insisted on the age-old Jewish family laws that require more than token acceptance in Jewish conversion.

Because of the complete separation of religion and state in the US, there is no power of enforcement to implement unified religious standards of Orthodox, Conservative and Reform for marriage, divorce and conversion so that born Jews often find it impossible *to marry one another.*

In Israel, where since the British Mandate, the chief rabbis are in full charge of marriage, divorce and conversion, the Jewish community has remained strong with powers of enforcement by the government.

Because we enjoy a Jewish government in Israel, we should avoid the unnecessary tensions endemic in the lands of the Diaspora.

Ben-Gurion and many of the founding fathers who were secular Jews knew that only Orthodox Jewish family laws could preserve us as one nation, and one family.

Those who paved the way for *the "disappearing American Jew* are now joining the "New Middle East" Jews who are endangering the future physical and spiritual strength of "Eternal Israel," for political advantage.

MORTON S. BAUM

Ra'anana.

COME INTO THE 20TH CENTURY

Sir – As is often the case, writers who have a strong ideological leaning often skew the facts to fit their agenda. Such is the case with Jonathan Rosenblum's June 27 column, in which he makes the totally unsubstantiated – and just plain wrong – statement that there *is* abundant evidence that, for teenagers whose sexual identity is in flux, TV shows that portray teenage homosexuality positively will increase the incidence of homosexuality.

Such drivel is what one would hear in the Middle Ages, or in Mr. Rosenblum's yeshiva; not in the halls of academia or modern medical teaching.

It is becoming increasingly clear to all in the field that homosexuality is predestined at birth, that the person has no control over it, and that denying it is more harmful than accepting the reality of it – as hard is it is to do in the cultural milieu that casts such scorn upon it, like Mr. Rosenblum's.

Come on, Mr. Rosenblum, come into the 20th century! Wake up to the reality that much has been learned about life since the Talmud, Mishna, and Gemara were codified. Learning does not stop with them; it continues on.

DR. H. ZIGERMAN

Willow Grove, PA.

MORE THAN CURIOUS

Sir- So Ziv Chen said that Pninat Yanai said that Shai Bazak said that the prime minister spoke to Judge Strashnov about the Manbar case. Not much in the way of evidence, I would say. It's even flimsier than the case of Roni Bar-On. Though why the Labor Party politicians want to dirty their hands on Manbar is more than curious.

And as long as we are comparing, Hanan Porat says that in a case such as this, either the prime minister is lying or someone else is and either way, someone must be made to "pay the price." We heard the same thing in the Bar-On case, and although the PM was cleared, no one paid any price. *Does anyone really think it will be* different this time?

Israel Pickholtz

Elazar.

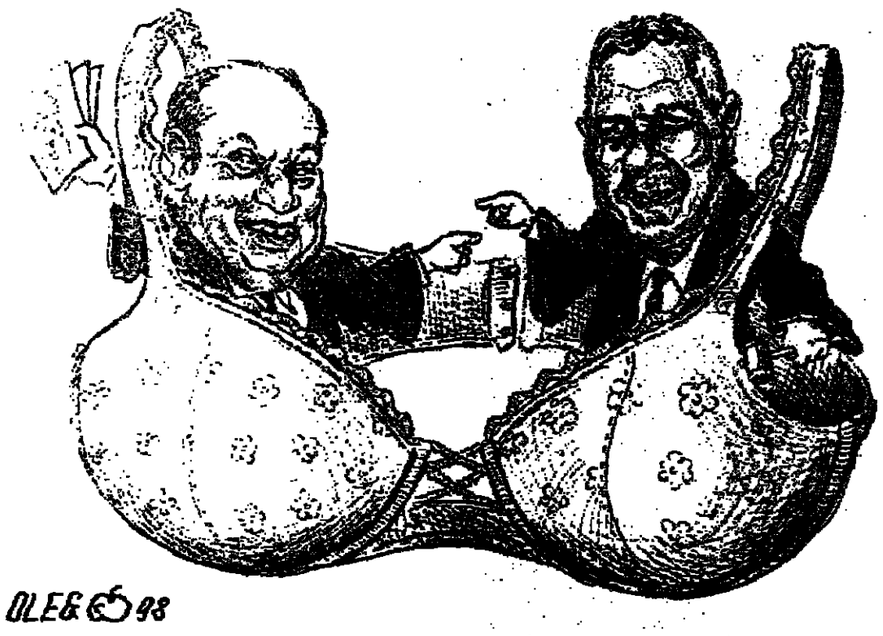
FROM OUR ARCHIVES

65 years ago: On July 16, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported that the government refused to publish the late Dr. Chaim Arlosoroff's report made on behalf of the Jewish Agency and an independent research project by French experts since both refuted Arab fears and proved that sufficient lands could be found and developed for both Jews and Arabs in the country.

50 years ago: On July 16, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that a Palestine truce move was adopted by eight votes to one, with two abstentions in UN Security Council. This was the first time in UN history that Chapter VII, with its sanctions clauses, had been invoked. Israeli forces advanced on all fronts and Cairo was bombed by the Israeli Air Force for the first time.

25 years ago: On July 16, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the army service had been cut to 33 months since the war fronts were less active, and the air force was believed to be a stronger deterrent.

Alexander Zvielli



Outrageous accusations

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

A cynical campaign to smear the good name of the judge who presided over the trail of Israel's most notorious traitor, Nahum Manbar, as well as a young female lawyer who was articled to him, has hit the lowest point of any judicial action in Israeli legal history. His effort to create a "Strashnov Affair" has backfired and is now known in legal and political circles as the "Zichroni Affair."

In a bid to have Tel Aviv District Court Judge Amnon Strashnov barred from passing sentence on Manbar, his defense lawyer, Amnon Zichroni claimed he had tapes and other evidence to prove that Strashnov's articled lawyer, Pninat Yanai, was involved in a sexual relationship with him.

Manbar's wife also claimed to have incriminating taped evidence against Yanai.

When Zichroni made his accusations public, Yanai responded immediately: "The accusation is an abominable act. I never had sex with Strashnov. After I completed my period of apprenticeship with him, Amnon Zichroni hired me. It was only after a while that I realized his motive was to try and pick my brains to find out what he could to use in his defense of Manbar."

So solid was the proof of Manbar's activities that his defense team had to descend to diversionary tricks to try and help him. In a bid to make it a major political issue, Zichroni also claimed that both Binyamin Netanyahu and his spokesman, Shai Bazak, had interfered in Manbar's trial. This was hotly denied.

It was Manbar's wife, Francine, who gave an indication of the money which was poured into the pockets of the defense team. She admitted that she had sold a villa in Lugano for $800,000 to help save her husband.

But that was comparative small change, for Manbar was paid $16 million for delivering 24 truckloads of deadly weaponry to Iran. As Strashnov put it when passing judgment: "He sacrificed the security of Israel and its well-being on the altar of his unrestrained greed."

So solid was the proof of Manbar's activities that his defense team had to descend to diversionary tricks to try and help him

WHAT happened to Manbar, who is a former kibbutznik and IDF paratrooper?

He wanted more from life than returning to his kibbutz and growing tomatoes. He was attracted by the bright lights of the world of jet-setters and their magnificent villas on the French Riviera. That is precisely where he met Francine, either by design or chance.

She was the widow of a German who was one of the shady arms dealers selling sophisticated weapons of mass destruction to Arab countries. The couple married.

Manbar had stepped into Francine's ex-husband's shoes as well as her bed by deciding that the sale of weapons to Iran would give him the lifestyle he craved.

For five years, the Israeli intelligence worked ceaselessly to track Manbar's operations. Because of his friendship with many left-wing politicians, the security services had to tread very delicately and carefully.

With masterly skill Manbar built the perfect cover by bringing his wife to Tel Aviv to brief Israeli security officials about her former husband's deals. Who could possibly guess that he was doing the same thing.

He befriended a wide variety of Labor politicians, including Uzi Baram and Dalia Itzik. He threw extravagant parties in the south of France. He nudged his way into the close circle around Yitzhak Rabin both before and after he became prime minister. Leah Rabin was a guest at his stylish villa.

He hailed the Oslo Accords as a great achievement. No wonder that he became the Labor Party's darling sugar daddy.

Amnon Zichroni was the Aviv Geffen of his youth. He refused to serve alongside his childhood friends *in the Israeli army in the* 1950s, making his stand on being pacifist. Certainly there is nothing of the pacifist in his smear campaign this week.

Even the security service operative "Nir" was named at being romantically connected with Yanai. If there was any proof of her alleged liaisons, one wonders how she could have found the time to carry out her work in court.

Yet there is no evidence at all of all these bedroom activities.

In short: To smear an innocent young lawyer and to stain her character with sexual innuendo is outrageous. And so is the unsubstantiated barrage of accusations flung in all directions by Zichroni without providing any firm evidence to back his claims.

Democratic corruption

DANIEL DORON

Cynics claim suicides increase after weekends because of too much family bliss. A likelier reason may be an overdose of political news.

A limited selection last weekend included Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon's prediction that the next Knesset could include over 20 parties and would not last a year; and a story about family members of assorted politicians, including Labor's secretary-general Ra'anan Cohen and former housing minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer acquiring, purely by chance of course, plots of land and villas next to projects run by Israel's largest private contractors, who are, accidentally of course, friends of these politicians, who for *friendly reasons lobbied for them.*

These stories represent in a nutshell the continued disintegration of Israel's party system and Eastern European-style democracy. In its place, a system of patronage is creating a free-for-all struggle within and among the parties. This struggle over the dispensing of "public" assets, which many confuse with privatization, makes the shift from a Bolshevik, "popular" democracy to a populist one, extremely excruciating.

Transition problems are exacerbated by the large parties' difficulties – since the demise of ideology – in recruiting voters. They try to acquire votes by offering benefits to interest groups and the "operators" who organize them. The spoils system has been thus "democratized," but at an escalating cost that no economy, even robust ones, can afford.

As more groups compete for ever costlier "benefits," and as party primaries force politicians to finance campaigns, the state budget is used to bribe interest groups (discharged soldiers, pensioners, industrialists, etc.) or favors are exchanged for support.

This is, of course, a universal scourge – Israel did not invent Tammany Hall nor write the script for *Yes, Minister*. It so erodes democracies that Public Choice political scientists concluded that only constitutional restraints on government spending, as a share of GNP, could curb political robbery.

Among democracies, Israel is a champion, of course, in government spending. It once reached 80%, and now hovers around 50% of GNP. This is why Israeli politics are so afflicted. There is so much more with which to corrupt.

When profits derive not from work on the production line but on the line to Jerusalem, a vicious political struggle erupts for benefits. This inhibits productivity and intensifies the struggle over diminishing resources. Political parties turn into unstable coalitions of vested interests, representing *mostly interlocking elites conspiring* against the consumer, hurting especially the "weaker strata."

Besides increasing waste and corruption (it is harder to be corrupt in a well-run enterprise), government intervention transfers so much wealth to the privileged, that they gradually become more powerful than politicians.

They extract *billions from government*, shaping or vetoing policies and even laws (as when Yitzhak Rabin and Avraham Shohat had to rescind a capital-gains tax). Powerful monopolistic public sector unions have also learned how to blackmail and gain benefits at the expense of weaker workers and the unemployed.

EXCESSIVE politization of everything polarizes and radicalizes society, intensifying conflicts between the secular and the religious, Ashkenazim and Sephardim, and so on. Society gradually disintegrates. As everyone is at each other's throats, violence increases and spills over from the political into the personal.

The media, obsessed with politics, further foment such excessive politicization. Being mostly ignorant of economics, most commentators fail to even recognize how the extreme concentration of economic power corrupts politics, blaming all our political troubles on such formalities as the electoral system.

But no electoral system exists – not even in the US, with its fairly effective checks and balances – that can withstand the temptations created when too big a government becomes the source of most wealth.

The few who do recognize the economic-political nexus, mostly get it wrong too, blaming "privatization" for all the ills created by decades of socialist and statist centralism.

Thus *Ha'uretz*'s intrepid Ari Shavit believes the decline in public morality represented by those journalists who did not demand the resignation of their convicted publisher, is "the inevitable byproduct of a society that...embraced a simplistic and savage idea of economic liberalism...*a society that ascribes the* highest value to property rights, to deregulation and to maximizing of profits." (It has not even occurred to Shavit, apparently, that they *simply want to protect their jobs.*)

The transfer of assets by governments to cronies in sweetheart deals, has little to do, however, with real privatization, which *results in* deregulation (which happened only in Shavit's fantasy) and increased competition. And the process of moral decay, which is so typical of all centralized economies, east and west, did not start – as Shavit well knows – with a putative economic liberalization.

It goes back deep into our socialist heritage, with its contempt for *property rights*, and all rights deriving thereof. Shavit would be hard pressed to blame economic liberalism for the longstanding and extensive corruption that surfaced when such socialist stalwarts as Yadlin, Levinsohn and their ilk were exposed; nor could he blame privatization for the Bolshevik press that then protected a corrupt system.

The decline in values caused by the disenchantment with the falsehoods of socialism poses a grave challenge to Israeli democracy. Its reversal will require more than shallow analyses and silly scapegoating.

Not only our democracy, but our very future may depend on rescuing us from the corruption caused by big government, not by an imaginary economic liberalism.

The View From the East

DAOUD KUTTAB

Answer the question

The United States government, unable and unwilling to press Israel to move ahead with the peace process, is now suggesting that the parties meet and resolve the differences between them. This is a big mistake.

Normally such a call would make a lot of sense. After all, parties intending to make peace must talk. For years, Israeli leaders demanded direct bilateral talks with the leaders of Arab countries (they didn't want to talk to Palestinians). Now, after Madrid and Oslo, thousands of hours of meetings have taken place between Israeli and Arab leaders – with little progress.

If the parties meet in a spirit of goodwill and with a genuine intention of resolving the conflict, such meetings would be welcome. But when these meetings become the goal rather than the means to achieving peace, they become counterproductive. Meetings whose only purpose is a photo opportunity send out the false signal that everything is OK, when in fact it is not.

Nearly six months ago, I interviewed the US consul-general in Jerusalem, *John Herbst, about the* peace process. At that time, the Clinton administration was trying to convince both Palestinians and Israelis to accept a compromise proposal to move the peace process ahead.

After the formal interview was over, Herbst asked if I thought the Palestinians would accept the US plan, which called for a second redeployment of only 13 percent from Palestinian territories. (The Palestinian Authority had been expecting a 30% partial pullback, in accordance with the Oslo Agreement.)

I told him that I believed Yasser Arafat would agree if it were *implemented as is*, without any further concessions on the Palestinian side.

Ironically, this American plan which has been awaiting an Israeli response for months was, in fact, tailor-made to fit Israeli requests. The US proposal is based on the concept of reciprocity as conceived by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

It is a step-by-step process in which each side has to carry out certain obligations before the other side carries out their commitments. The Palestinian concern turned out to be legitimate. While the Palestinians have accepted the US plan, Netanyahu has not. Instead, he is trying to blame the Palestinians and demand further concessions.

THE US has left the people of the region hanging. We were promised resolve and action, but all we see is hesitation and inaction. President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright have warned, more than once, they will announce the full text of their plan and also declare which party is responsible for its failure. But every time the US is about to publish its peace plan, the Israelis and their supporters in Congress pressure the Clinton administration and nothing happens. At best, US envoy Dennis Ross is sent over here.

Now Albright seems to be abandoning the US compromise plan and is calling on the parties to negotiate directly. This is a cop-out.

Israel has flaunted the international community. It uses the power it has on the ground in occupied Palestine to make its own demands and ignore international law. The suggestion that by simply having Israelis and Palestinians meet problems will be resolved is far-fetched.

Shortly after the 1991 Madrid Conference, former premier Yitzhak Shamir said he intended to drag on those talks with the Palestinians for 10 years. At that conference, Netanyahu was the Israeli spokesman. Like his ex-boss, Netanyahu, without concerted external and international pressure, will keep dragging on the talks with the Palestinians, sending false signals that an agreement is just around the corner.

For a PR person like Netanyahu, meetings are a great opportunity to look good without making the hard decisions. He still seems to think that he is the Israeli government's spokesman, not its prime minister.

Netanyhau seems unwilling to respect the will of the international community and reverse the injustice Israel metes out daily to Palestinians any more than Slobodan Milosevic will cease his genocidal policies in the face of international criticism. For the present Israeli rulers, like their Serbian counterparts, right is not might, only might is right.

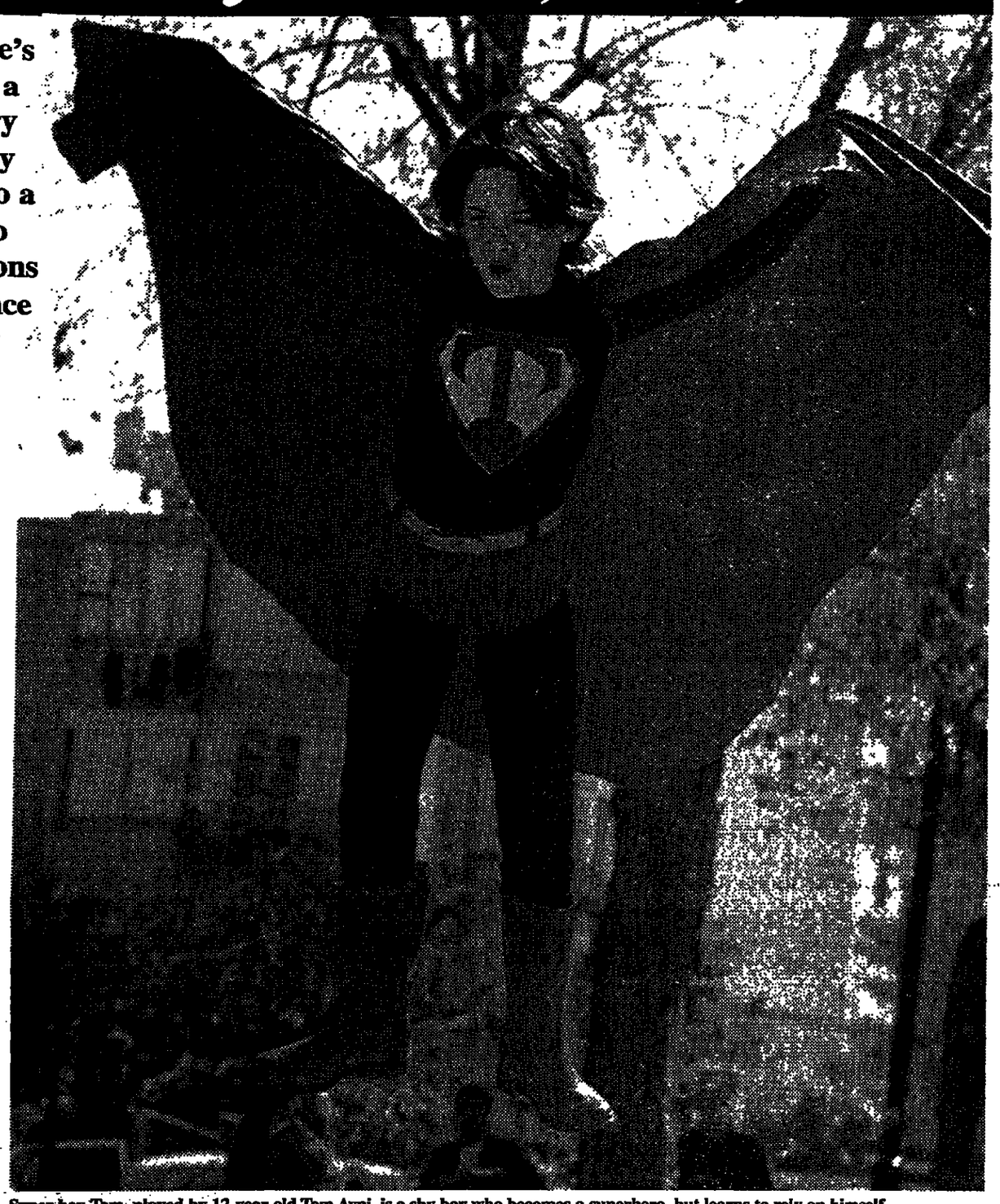
The US and the world community must find a way to get the Israelis to answer the questions they have been asked. A meeting with the Palestinians will not help answer the question the world has been asking of Israel.

Weekender

Super Boy is fun, fun, fun

Hanoch Rosenne's debut movie is a fantastical story about a shy boy transformed into a superhero who learns some lessons about self-reliance along the way

By HELEN KAYE



Super boy Tom, played by 12-year-old Tom Avni, is a shy boy who becomes a superhero, but learns to rely on himself.
(Yoni Hamenachem)

"It's about time somebody made a movie for my daughters," says fond poppa, actor Yuval Tsarfati, of the movie *Super Boy*. In Hanoch Rosenne's debut movie Tsarfati gets up to all kinds of wickedness as Bill Roshdeh, the Very Bad Guy.

Tsarfati hasn't seen it yet, but his daughters, eight-year-old Noa and four-year-old sister, Gaia, "saw bits of it on TV and roared with laughter." Their response will please Rosenne, who describes *Super Boy* as a family action adventure film of which laughter is definitely part.

Tom, played by 12-year-old Tom Avni, is an ordinary preteen – shy, a bit dreamer and not too popular with his peers. From afar he adores his classmate Abigail (Meytal Segal).

One day Tom is knocked down by a couple of baddies on the lam (Bill – shudder – reappear). He wakes unconscious at the hospital where the archetypal absent-minded/genius professor, his friend and neighbor Professor Gantz (Oded Teomi), administers a wonder drug. When Tom wakes up and behold, he is a physical and mental superhero.

He becomes immensely popular as king of the ratings and celebrity of the month (Dudu Topaz guests as himself). He gets a swelled head, and runs afoul of the awful Bill (played by Tsarfati).

Of course it all turns out right in the end – Tom even gets the girl – but not before the professor's potion begins to wear off and Tom learns a couple of valuable lessons about self-reliance.

Young Avni, an enormously talented youngster from Eilat, played Mowgli in *The Jungle Book*, Gilad's super-hit stage adaptation of the Kipling book. So when Rosenne decided to venture into movie-making, it was natural that he take Avni along.

Following the success of the stage, financing the movie wasn't much of a problem, Rosenne says. The film's approximately $1 million budget came from 10 private investors.

He acknowledges that the movie's storyline is woven out of bits and pieces from favorite films and movies, "but not consciously so. Making a film has always been something I've dreamed of, and I thought that this type of movie would be great.

"Most Israeli movies deal with local problems, and are introspective. This one is entertainment with a message. It's the story of a child who starts out as an underdog, which makes him sympathetic to the audience. But there's also the idea of relying on what's in you, not in magical potions or external powers."

SPEAKING OF inner strengths, Rosenne himself is a good example.

The shy Jerusalem kid started as a mime and made his first professional appearance as part of the Israel Festival's free outdoor events in 1976. He has had a string of successful one-man mime shows, the most recent *Fun without Words* in 1994. He has performed all over the world, including in China, where he enchanted deaf children.

Rosenne has also appeared in speaking roles on stage and TV, singing and dancing in shows such as *Peter Pan* and *Panto*.

Ambitious, thorough, talented and charismatic, Rosenne is a natural director. His first show was the 1995 *Tale of a Sperm* at the Beit Zvi Drama school, which he also wrote.

Now he's taken on film "and because it was all so new I surrounded myself with experts. I listened to and consulted with them every step of the way. They helped me to make the decisions. I think that's the essence of a good director, to be able to listen and then to make the right decisions."

Rosenne leaves unsaid his hope that the decisions he made *were* the right ones, and praises his colleagues instead: scriptwriters Noa Arad-Brener and Amit Lior, who turned his ideas into dialogue and scenes, veteran cameraman Avi Koren, editor Zion Abrahamian and Ori Ofir, who wrote the music.

"I LOVED it, really loved it," says Teomi, for whom *Super Boy* marked a return to film after four years. Teomi, like Tsarfati, works mostly on stage, and says that initially Professor Gantz "kept getting mixed up in my head" with the stage role of Gens.

Gens, the tragic ghetto boss of Yehoshua Sobol's *Adam* (and one of Teomi's great roles), is about as far away from wacky inventor Gantz as you can get, but the confusion "cleared the minute we found me that tousled white wig and glasses. I didn't act. I became that professor."

Rosenne and Avni, he continues, "were a wonderful combination. It was an experience to work with such a gifted boy. He is the star of the film, but he's not spoiled. He's natural, so focused and professional, and this is his first film. As for Hanoch, he's a perfectionist. He was so prepared, a pleasure and I'm not one to spread compliments around."

Tsarfati agrees, adding "I never felt it was Hanoch's first film. He's enormously talented, works with great openness and lets the actors try things. I have never acted for children before, and it's the first time I've made a children's film. I discovered that you have to act the same for children as for adults."

Both Teomi and Tsarfati have a long string of stage successes behind them, mostly in serious classical or modern drama, but they'd never worked together.

To their regret, they didn't have many scenes together in *Super Boy* "but we spent hours in our caravan talking about everything under the sun," Teomi says. And both men say they enjoyed the chance to play over-the-top fantasy roles.

A part like that "is very liberating," says Tsarfati, "as long as you know where you're going with it. I loved playing the villain, but without the morbidity and the cruelty. It's fun to fool around."

"Usually I can't wait for the shooting to end," says Teomi, "but not on this one. This one was fun, fun, fun."

Hot tips

By DAHLIA SCHEINDLIN

Tel Aviv

As if jealous of Arad, Jaffa has captured a few of the pop music festival's performers (see below) for a quieter sort of venue. Old Jaffa Nights has a special treat: Yehudit Ravitz hosts Boaz Sharabi, who is just beginning to celebrate the release of his latest album, as well as Rami Fortiss and Shlomi Bracha, starting at 9:35 p.m. at Gan Hapisga.

Meanwhile, a rare evening of Greek music can be found tonight, at the Sirtaki Bar. The action only starts at 11:30 p.m., 1 Herbert Samuel Street, call (03) 516-3263.

Early birds will have entertainment available, but only if you've somehow missed it until now: Yossi Banai plays songs and reads from Brassens, at the Tzavta theater.

Literature comes alive for Anglos this weekend! The American Book Fair started on Wednesday, and continues through Friday, after which it moves to Jerusalem for a lavish eight days (until the 26th). At bargain prices, the fair offers (in its own words) a "wider variety and cheaper than any Israeli bookstore." The whole affair will be held at the ZOA House from 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Call (03) 695-9341. (In Jerusalem, at the American Colony Hotel until the 26th, also from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Call (02) 695-9341)

Sci-fi fans are given the royal treatment on Saturday! Our local Cinematheque is graced with the landing of not one but four *Alien(s)*, each prettier than the last. Fear not! Sigourney Weaver sweats profusely in all four. The *Aliens* marathon begins at 3 p.m. with number one, the plural version is at 5:15, at 7:45 catch the third (the crazy thing tries to invade an outer-space prison); and finally, at 10, witness *The Resurrection*. Above all, never say "die." 2 Sprinzak St., call (03) 691-7181 for details.

Not sick of dance festivals yet? Mehol Lohit (Dance Hits) continues through next month, but this very evening Bat Dor performs its newest work: ***Sunites and Five Seasons***, starting at 9 p.m. at Suzanne Dellal.

Jerusalem

Jerusalem student theater is alive in the capital city tonight. Near Talpiot, in a little nest of acting, art and film schools, the Nissim Nativ Acting Studio presents two short comedies, entitled *Jump Out the Window*. 4 Yad Harutzim, Jerusalem, starting at 8:30 p.m.

On Friday night, Beit Shmuel is the place to be. Rikki Gal, also winding down from Arad, performs in *I Love You More*, based on her newest album. 10:30 p.m. at Beit Shmuel. Call (02) 620-3456.

Meanwhile, back at the Bible Lands Museum, the Hot Jazz in the Cool Breeze series has a special Saturday night: Bee Bop and Swing, with Dmitri and his band, at 9:30 p.m. at 25 Granot St. Call (02) 561-1066.

And Points Beyond

Anybody who's anybody (especially if you're under 25) will be at Arad tonight for the closing of the three-day orgy of pop music. The lineup is star-studded, to match the desert skies: Alon Oliarchik of Kaveret fame; the very alternative Pablo Rosenberg and the very techno-pop Sharon Haziz are on board. Halehaka will be performing, and the hit parade continues with Rami Kleinstein and Rita, Shalom Hanoch, Ehud Banai, Habreira Hativ'it with Shlomo Bar, and on and on. Call (07) 995-4409 for more information, or Egged for hourly bus schedules straight to the stage.

Batsheva refuses to stay down. Following Naharin's latest success for adults that was unveiled at the Mehol Lohit festival, a brand new work for children has now been released, entitled *Zachacha*. The show can be seen tonight at Hechal Hatarbut in Nahariya, at 6 p.m. Call (03) 546-1613 for details.

Music on the beach is a continuing summer attraction. Tonight at 8:30 p.m. at the Caesarea Amphitheater, Gabri Levy hosts *Hakol Over Habibi*.

Film

Starting tonight, *The Big Lebowski* (the latest by Mr. and Mr. Coen) will open in theaters. Forget your troubles and roll with the Dude. Jeff Bridges gives a prime performance, John Goodman is the unlikely Jew and Steve Buscemi (the "funny looking guy" from Fargo) is a scream, as usual.

AFTER HOURS

Shanty's enticing summer secrets

By RUTH MARKS

Shanty, like its name, gives Jerusalem nightlife an alternative, ethnic feel. Away from the rambling Russian Compound with its strip of packed bars and blaring techno music, Shanty provides 20-something Jerusalemites with a well-deserved and definitely needed place to hang out.

Carefully hidden amid the maze of downtown Jerusalem's cobblestone streets and backalley ways and only a few short steps from Ben Yehuda Street's tourist traps, Shanty is one of Jerusalem's best kept secrets.

The branches of an enormous tree shadow Shanty's courtyard, neatly arranged with dimly-lit wooden tables and plastic garden chairs. Yellow spotlights adorn the roof of Shanty's shack-like exterior.

On Thursday and Friday nights you'll be very lucky if you can find one of the greatly-sought-after tables outside. Still, inside the feel is nearly as good, even if it is a little cramped.

Red and green lights shine down from the domed Arabesque ceiling. The walls and window frames are decorated to enhance Shanty's ethnic feel. Conventional Israeli pop music fills the ears and livens the mood.

Shanty falls somewhere between a restaurant and a bar. The menu offers everything from unusual salads to pizza to a selection of Thai dishes. The rich smell of fancy cooking drifts out from the kitchen's open window, making it almost impossible not to try something.

Alternatively, Shanty is a great place to chill out and simply have a drink. The high stalls surrounding the well-stocked bar are comfortable and inviting.

Shanty is really a summer venue, although it is open all year round and is quite cozy during the winter. On Thursday nights throughout the summer Shanty offers a late-night barbecue special. The smell is incredibly appealing after a night out on the town.

In the daylight this quiet courtyard and almost rundown building don't stand out but at midnight the place is almost unrecognizable. Groups of young people gather to enjoy the nighttime feasts.

Shanty opens at 7:30 pm on Thursdays and 8:30 pm on Fridays, growing more and more packed as the evening progresses. They have no official closing time, and serve a full menu until the last person leaves.

Shanty, 4 Nahalat Shiva, Jerusalem

Books on my mind

Children's superstar Michal Yanai talks about her favorite books



As soon as she learned to talk, Michal Yanai said that she wanted to be an actress. By the age of eight she had already acted in her first play, cast as the king, and it's only been up from there.

She admits to having spent a good deal of her childhood playing "dress-up" and "pretend." Now, as one of the most popular children's celebrities on television, Yanai gets to "dress-up" and act in the television show *The Garden of Make-Believe* for the Children's Channel.

"As a child I knew that I had to be an actress," Yanai explains. "It was sort of strange back then for a child to say that, or even to have any idea what she wanted to be, but I was always acting – with my family, with my friends, in school and later in plays."

Yanai acted in her first full-length motion picture, *Neshika Bametzach* (A Kiss on the Forehead), at the age of 17. "This was sort of ironic in a way, because it was before I was in the army and in the film I played a soldier," Yanai explained.

After her army service, Yanai went on to study acting at the respected Beit Tzvi acting school. Before beginning the three-year program, she was already working for Channel 1. Even though, as Yanai notes, working was forbidden while studying, she managed to continue doing children's programs on weekends and at night.

"It was really cool to be doing this on Channel 1 at the time because this was all so new in Israel, children's programs and the like," explains Yanai. "I felt like I really had an input."

Yanai recently starred in *The Wizard of Oz* as Dorothy and frequently participates in the annual children's Hanukka show *Festigal*. She also stars on the Children's Channel's *Katzefet* and hosts a number of other children's programs.

Asked if she is seeking other roles, Yanai says she would like to try to broaden her horizons, but enjoys working with kids. The 26-year-old Yanai recently completed recording an album for Disney.

"In every country they approach a certain artist and ask them to sing songs to salute the magic of Disney. Of course I jumped at the offer and was very proud to have been asked." The disc will go on sale here in the near future.

As she often travels to England to visit her boyfriend, Yanai likes to spend her time in transit reading. Here she talks about five of her favorite books.

1. *The Heart* by Edmondo De Amicis

"This is basically a story for children but I have always really enjoyed it. Every time I read this book, I find it exciting and touching. Sort of a children's book for adults."

2. *Perfume* by Patrick Susskind

"This book is quite popular at the moment and I think it is a must [read]. It is the story of a man who is born with the most developed sense of smell in the world, although he himself has no bodily odors. He is treated as a freak, and then uses his sense of smell to create perfumes. At this point the book becomes a bit morbid, but it is well written."

3. *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde

"Here Oscar Wilde speaks about the aging process in a way that is very touching. I think that for all women this is a very scary subject, and I really like this book. It also deals with the idea of eternity in an abstract way. It is always interesting to read Wilde."

4. *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath

"Another book about women. I enjoy reading about women. In this story Plath tells about a woman going through a breakdown, and this is a very sensitive subject. While reading the book I found it to be very moving; it is not an easy book to digest."

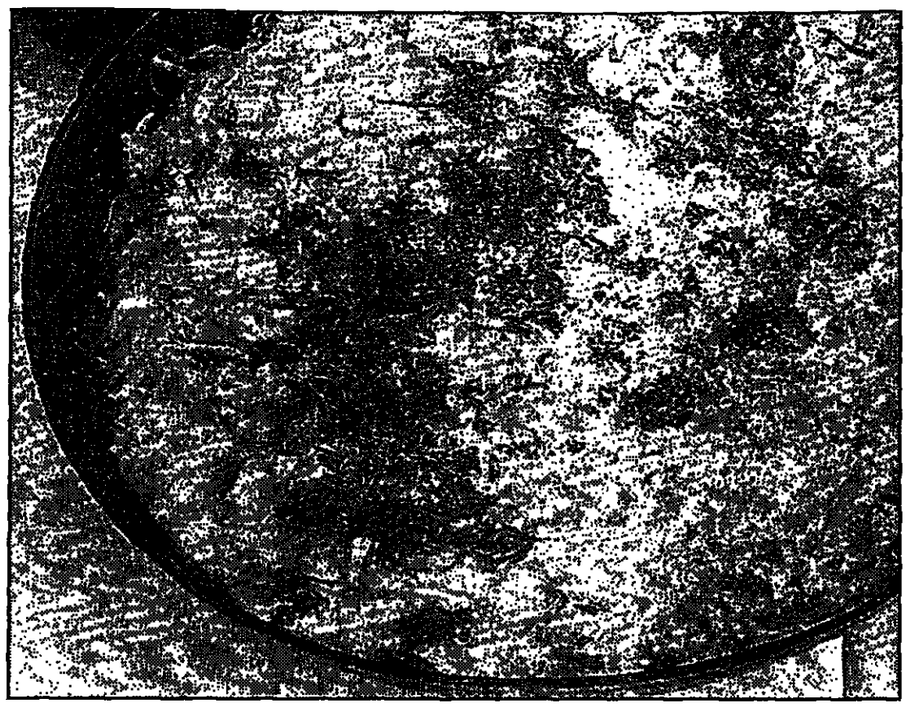
5. *Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus* by John Gray

"This is a book about the differences between men and women; differences so vast and so deep that we may as well be from opposite planets. But [Gray maintains] that with respect for each other and with communication [men and women] can come to an understanding. There may be hope for us yet!" – *Sonie Lemor*

Weekender Food & Drink

The case for the egg

By DOROTHY FOLTZ-GRAY and LINDA WEST ECKHARDT



For too many years, eggs took a beating. Turns out they're not the nutritional bad guys after all.

Back in the 1970s, as we naively enjoyed our omelets, custards, and quiches, researchers began uncovering troubling links between diet and disease. The deeper they delved, the louder their cries grew about the link between saturated fat and cholesterol and the risk of heart disease. Suddenly, the cholesterol-rich egg was a dietary boodlum.

Two decades later, however, more and more studies are revealing that for most people, fears about eggs have been exaggerated.

"Most everyone will agree that the earlier sole focus on reducing the intake of dietary cholesterol, and particularly eggs, was misplaced," says Robert Nicolosi, PhD, director of the Center for Cardiovascular Disease Control at the University of Massachusetts-Lowell. "Even those who still argue that eggs need to be limited, agree that saturated fat, not dietary cholesterol, has the major impact on blood-cholesterol levels."

More important, scientists have confirmed in humans what they observed in animal studies decades ago: Response to dietary cholesterol is highly individual. Many scientists believe how you respond to cholesterol is genetically determined. If a relative died of heart disease and your blood cholesterol is more than 200, for example, a cheese-filled omelet may not be your best daily breakfast choice.

Because an easy test for cholesterol sensitivity doesn't exist yet, the American Heart Association still urges restraint with eggs and other cholesterol-rich foods.

"We know that dietary cholesterol is related to the risk of heart attack, independent of blood-cholesterol levels," says Ronald Krauss, MD, chairman of the AHA's nutrition committee and head of the department of molecular medicine at the University of California-Berkeley. "A portion of dietary cholesterol winds up in the arteries." (A single egg contains about 215 milligrams of cholesterol, which is two-thirds of the 300 mg. daily limit that the AHA recommends.)

Even so, no one – including Krauss – is suggesting that you go egg-less, unless you're particularly sensitive to dietary cholesterol.

"The AHA has always said that eggs can be a part of a healthful diet," he says.

In fact, its guidelines allow up to four eggs a week. The reasons are simple: Eggs are "a perfectly nutritious food," Krauss says. At only 70 calories a pop, they're an almost ideal low-fat source of protein. Each egg has about 4.5 grams of fat, of which only one-quarter is saturated – about the same amount as a cup of 1 percent milk. Eggs also are inexpensive and contain modest amounts of riboflavin, iron, calcium, phosphorus, zinc, and vitamins A, B6, and B12.

So lighten up and enjoy an occasional souffle, omelet, or quiche. Most people can savor those foods and still stay within the AHA guidelines, especially if they watch what they pair with their eggs.

STRATA MILANO WITH GORGONZOLA

This is a great make-ahead brunch dish.

3 1/4 cups low-fat milk
1 cup low-fat ricotta cheese
1/2 cup Gorgonzola cheese or other blue cheese, crumbled
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. ground red pepper
5 large eggs
1 3/4 cups diced plum tomato
1 cup finely chopped red onion
1 1/2 tsp. dried rosemary
1 French bread baguette, cut into 2cm. slices and toasted
cooking spray
2 tsp. paprika
2 Tbsp. grated Parmesan cheese
rosemary sprigs (optional)

Combine milk and next 5 ingredients (milk through eggs); stir with a whisk until well-blended. Combine the tomato, onion and rosemary.

Arrange half of the bread slices in a single layer in a 23cm. x 33cm. baking dish coated with cooking spray. Spoon half of tomato mixture evenly over bread slices. Pour half of milk mixture over tomato mixture. Repeat procedure with remaining bread, tomato mixture, and milk mixture. Sprinkle with paprika and cheese. Cover; chill 8 hours or overnight.

Preheat oven to 175°. Uncover casserole and bake for 45 minutes or until set. Garnish with rosemary sprigs, if desired. (Serves 10.)

CURRIED DEVILED EGGS ON WHOLE-WHEAT CRACKERS

6 hard-cooked large eggs
2 Tbsp. chives
3 Tbsp. low-fat mayonnaise
1 1/2 Tbsp. low-fat cottage cheese
2 tsp. fresh lime or lemon juice
1 1/2 tsp. curry powder
1/4 tsp. ground cumin
1/8 tsp. ground red pepper
1/4 tsp. paprika
12 whole-wheat crackers

Peel and slice eggs in half lengthwise. Mash yolks; stir in chives and next 6 ingredients (chives through red pepper). Spoon about 1 Tbsp. yolk mixture into each egg white half. Cover and chill 1 hour. Sprinkle with paprika; serve with crackers. (Serves 12.)

AVGOLEMONO

Whisked eggs give this famous Greek lemon soup a velvety-smooth texture.

2 cups chicken broth
1 cup water
3 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
1 cup hot cooked long-grain rice
1/2 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. white pepper
6 lemon slices

Heat broth and water in a medium-sized saucepan over medium-high heat. Gradually add hot broth mixture and lemon juice to eggs, stirring constantly with a whisk. Return egg mixture to pan. Cook over medium heat until slightly thick (about 15 minutes), stirring constantly.

Remove soup from heat; stir in rice, salt, and pepper. Ladle soup into each of 6 bowls; serve with lemon slices. (Serves 6.)

SESAME-AND-ROASTED EGGPLANT SOUFFLE

Serve this souffle with pitot and a sliced-cucumber salad for a light supper.

cooking spray
3 cups cubed peeled eggplant
2 tsp. dark sesame oil
3 garlic cloves
2 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1 cup low-fat milk
2 large eggs, lightly beaten
2 Tbsp. chopped fresh or 2 tsp. dried parsley
1 Tbsp. fresh lemon juice
1 Tbsp. tehina
1/2 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. pepper
4 large egg whites
1/2 tsp. cream of tartar
1/2 tsp. sesame seeds

Preheat oven to 205°.

Cut a piece of foil long enough to fit around a 1 1/2-liter souffle dish, allowing a 2.5cm. overlap; fold foil lengthwise into thirds. Lightly coat one side of foil and bottom of dish with cooking spray. Wrap foil around outside of dish, coated side against dish, allowing it to extend 10cm. above the rim to form a collar; secure with string or masking tape.

Combine eggplant, oil and garlic in a bowl; toss gently to coat. Place eggplant mixture on a jelly-roll pan coated with cooking spray, spreading evenly. Bake at 205° for 30 minutes.

Place flour in a medium-sized saucepan. Gradually add milk, stirring with a whisk until well-blended. Bring to a boil over medium heat; cook 2 minutes or until thick, stirring constantly.

Place eggs in a large bowl. Gradually add hot milk mixture to eggs, stirring constantly with a whisk. Combine the milk mixture, eggplant mixture, parsley, lemon juice, tehina, salt, and pepper in a blender or food processor; process until smooth. Return mixture to bowl.

Beat the egg whites and cream of tartar at high speed of a mixer until stiff peaks form. Gently stir one-fourth of the egg white mixture into the eggplant mixture. Gently fold in the remaining egg white mixture. Pour mixture into prepared souffle dish and sprinkle sesame seeds evenly over the souffle. Bake at 205° for 10 minutes.

Reduce oven temperature to 190° (do not remove the souffle from the oven) and bake for an additional 40 minutes or until puffy and golden. Carefully remove foil collar and serve immediately. (Serves 6.)

FAMILY FRITTATA

1 tsp. olive oil
cooking spray
1 cup finely chopped red onion
1 cup chopped green bell pepper
2 garlic cloves, minced
3 cups thinly sliced yellow Finnish potato or red potato
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. black pepper
1/8 tsp. ground red pepper
6 large eggs
2 Tbsp. minced fresh parsley
2 Tbsp. chives
1/2 cup finely chopped tomato
parsley sprigs (optional)

Heat oil in a 25cm. cast-iron skillet coated with cooking spray over medium heat. Add onion, bell pepper and garlic; saute 5 minutes.

Arrange potato over onion mixture; sprinkle with salt, black pepper and red pepper. Cover, reduce heat to medium-low, and cook 20 minutes or until potato is tender.

Preheat broiler. Combine eggs, parsley, and chives in a medium-sized bowl; stir well with a whisk. Pour over vegetables; cook over medium heat 10 minutes or until almost set. Top with tomato; broil 4 minutes or until browned and set. Garnish with parsley sprigs, if desired. (Serves 6.)

RUSTIC VEGETABLE QUICHE

1 cup all-purpose flour, divided
3 1/2 Tbsp. ice water
1 tsp. sugar
1/2 tsp. salt, divided
3 Tbsp. vegetable shortening
cooking spray
1/2 tsp. oil
1 cup chopped red potato
1/2 cup chopped onion
1/2 cup shredded Jarlsberg cheese
1/4 cup thinly sliced green onions
1 1/2 cups low-fat milk
1/8 tsp. ground red pepper
3 large eggs
1/4 tsp. paprika

Lightly spoon flour into dry measuring cups; level with a knife. Combine 1/4 cup flour and ice water, stirring with a whisk until well-blended.

Combine 3/4 cup flour, sugar and 1/4 tsp. salt in a bowl; cut in shortening with a pastry blender or 2 knives until mixture resembles coarse meal. Add ice water mixture; toss with a fork until moist.

Gently press mixture into a 10cm. circle on heavy-duty plastic wrap; cover with additional plastic wrap. Roll dough, still covered, into a 28cm. circle; chill 10 minutes.

Preheat oven to 205°.

Remove 1 sheet of plastic wrap; fit dough into a 23cm. pie plate coated with cooking spray. Remove top sheet of plastic wrap. Fold edges under; flute. Pierce bottom and sides of dough with a fork; bake at 205° for 8 minutes. Cool on a wire rack. Reduce oven temperature to 190°.

Heat oil in a large nonstick skillet. Add potato and chopped onion; saute 10 minutes or until tender. Remove from heat. Arrange potato mixture, cheese, and green onions in prepared crust.

Combine milk, 1/4 tsp. salt, pepper, and eggs and stir well with a whisk. Pour milk mixture into crust; sprinkle with paprika. Bake at 190° for 45 minutes or until a knife inserted 2.5cm. from center comes out clean; let stand 10 minutes. (Serves 8.)

CLASSIC CUSTARD

6 large eggs
1/2 cup sugar
1/4 tsp. salt
4 cups low-fat milk
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1/2 tsp. almond extract
cooking spray

Preheat oven to 160°.

Combine eggs, sugar and salt in a large bowl; stir well with a whisk.

Heat milk in a large, heavy saucepan over medium-high heat until tiny bubbles form around edge (do not boil). Remove milk from heat and gradually add to the egg mixture, stirring constantly with a whisk. Stir in vanilla and almond extracts.

Pour mixture into a deep 2-liter souffle dish coated with cooking spray. Place casserole in a 33cm. x 23cm. baking pan, and add hot water to the pan to a depth of 2.5cm. Bake at 160° for 50 minutes or until a knife inserted in center of custard comes out almost clean. Remove casserole from pan; serve custard warm or chilled. (Serves 7.).

EGG-AND-TUNA SALAD SANDWICHES

4 hard-cooked large eggs, chopped
1 can chunk light tuna in water, drained
2 Tbsp. minced red onion
3 Tbsp. mayonnaise
2 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
1/2 tsp. freshly ground pepper
10 slices whole-wheat bread
5 large red leaf lettuce leaves
5 thick slices tomato
1 1/4 cups alfalfa sprouts

Combine the first 6 ingredients in a medium-sized bowl. Spread 1/2 cup egg mixture over each of 5 bread slices. Top each with 1 lettuce leaf, 1 tomato slice, 1/4 cup alfalfa sprouts and 1 bread slice. (Makes 5 sandwiches.)

EGGS FLORENTINE

900 gr. frozen chopped spinach, thawed, drained and squeezed dry
cooking spray
6 large eggs
3 Tbsp. all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp. salt
1/8 tsp. ground red pepper
2 cups low-fat milk
1/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1/4 tsp. paprika
6 English muffins, split and toasted
1/4 tsp. coarse ground black pepper

Preheat oven to 175°.

Press spinach into the bottom of a 33cm. x 23cm. baking dish coated with cooking spray. Form 6 7.5cm. indentations in spinach layer using the back of a spoon or bottom of a large custard cup. Break an egg into each indentation.

Combine flour, salt and red pepper in a medium-sized saucepan. Gradually add the milk, stirring with a whisk until blended. Place milk mixture over medium heat and cook until thick (about 8 minutes), stirring constantly. Remove from heat; add cheese, stirring until cheese melts.

Pour cheese sauce over eggs and spinach; sprinkle with paprika. Bake at 175° for 25 minutes or until egg yolks are almost set. Cut spinach-egg mixture into 6 portions; serve each portion over 2 English muffin halves and sprinkle with black pepper. (Serves 6.)

Creators Syndicate, Inc.



By PHYLLIS GLAZER

Phyllis's Tips

Not from the cow (avoid)

It seems like there is a new trend today to add vitamins to everything from dairy products and Bamba to ketchup. Tara Dairies has been doing a lot of this lately in its "White to the Point" advertising campaign. The latest products in this line are what Tara is calling "natural and young" milk drinks. They come in chocolate, banana and vanilla flavors.

To tell you the truth, I'd rather mix a fresh banana and milk in the blender with a little honey than give my kids a glass of "pasteurized milk, sugars, flavoring and aromatic materials, emulsifier and natural coloring E160a." And where's the banana on this list of ingredients? The banana flavor reminds me of the banana-flavored marshmallows I ate at the circus. The chocolate flavor tastes good but, again, just what are those "flavoring and aromatic materials and emulsifier?" The vanilla has that artificial vanillin flavor that some unfortunate consumers think is the real McCoy.

I think it's better to make your own nutritious flavored shakes than buy milk with a lot of sugar and chemical additives. A 500 ml. container sells for NIS 3.40.

Donut ice cream (avoid)

It's nice to know that there are Israeli ice cream companies like Dr. Lek and Glida Beersheba that produce quality homemade-style ice creams in flavors that are mostly natural. Feldman is a different kind of Israeli ice cream company because it competes in the ice-cream-bar market against both larger local and foreign brands. But, unfortunately, Feldman goes for the cheap, not the quality, line and its flavors taste artificial.

Its new donut-shaped ice-cream bar is typical of its other products. It's vanillin-flavored, cream-based ice cream covered in bubblegum-flavored chocolate coating and decorated with colorful candies. Need I say more? NIS 4 per bar.

Natural nectar (OK)

With so much junk around to drink, it's nice to see that a major company is "going natural." Spring, a popular Israeli beverage line, has just come out with a new bottle and a new line of drinks made with all natural ingredients. Flavors: strawberry-banana; mango; orange; apple; peach; pear; and guava. The strawberry-banana is OK; the apple still tastes synthetic. I prefer real juice to nectar. A 400 ml. container costs NIS 6.65.

A winner

Fans of Yarden wines will be pleased to know that the winery was just awarded a gold medal at the International Wine and Spirit Competition in London, one of the most important wine competitions in the world. Yarden's Cabernet Sauvignon 1994 won the only gold medal awarded to an Israeli winery.

Since 1987, when the winery first entered the competition, it has been awarded 16 consecutive gold medals.

Food entertainment

Homemade is the theme of the food fair that takes place every Thursday from 6-10:30 p.m. and every Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. during the summer months at Dizengoff Center in Tel Aviv. There are around 50 stands offering items like home-made Moroccan, Thai, Tunisian, Iraqi, and Kurdish food, as well as containers of preserves, cheeses, spices, pickles and beer. Since almost 20,000 people visit the fair every week, it's a good idea to get there early so you can find parking in the underground lot.

Birthday tip

It's nice to find a place to eat that's child-friendly these days. Kudos go to Columbus in Herzliya's office park area for its attention to details. The restaurant not only offers a children's menu, but also greets kids with a coloring-and-activity book and crayons. And if your little one is having a birthday, all the waiters in the restaurant will sing to him to wish him a joyous happy birthday and give him a balloon to take home.

While not inexpensive, the food is fresh and good, the service is friendly, and the restrooms are clean as a whistle. The best time to go is early (from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. they offer a 20 percent discount on the menu and if you order one beverage you'll get a second free). Make sure to make reservations in advance and ask for the non-smoking section. Evenings and weekends are very crowded and noisy.

Back

By PHYLLIS GLAZER

I know *The Jerusalem Post* has gone American, but can you please clarify: Does all-purpose flour mean self-rising flour or plain flour, as we British refer to it? I assume that for cakes it would be self-rising flour.
– Candyce Bliss, Jerusalem

Self-rising flour is regular white flour to which baking powder and/or baking soda have been added so the consumer doesn't have to add a leavening agent to it. In America, cake recipes specifically state whether to use either all-purpose flour or cake flour, neither of which contains leavening agents, which are added to the batter separately.

All-purpose flour is a heavier type of flour that may contain a mixture of wheats. Cake flour is more finely ground and usually is made from a soft type of wheat.

Would you please give a basic cake recipe using oil instead of margarine? I would be obliged if you would give the ingredients in pounds and ounces or grams, except the oil, of course, as I find it difficult to cook when the ingredients are given in cups. It never seems to come out quite right.
– Deana Whine, Kfar Sava

My first suggestion to you is to try your own favorite cake recipe substituting oil for butter or margarine: 1 cup of butter or margarine (roughly 200 gr.) equals 1 cup of oil; 100 gr. butter or margarine equals 1/2 cup oil, etc. This substitution works well for many recipes.

Another suggestion is to buy standardized measuring cups; perhaps one of the difficulties you are having is that you are using a teacup that is not the same size as a standard cup. (In a pinch you can use an empty cottage cheese container for a one-cup measure.)

When measuring flour, try spooning the flour into the cup rather than packing it – that's the way it is usually done when the recipe is tested. Also flour here in Israel is different from flour abroad – it is a much lighter cake-type flour made from soft winter wheat. That means that when you use a recipe from abroad, you might want to add a little more flour than the recipe suggests, especially if it calls for "all-purpose flour." You also might want to try experimenting with different types of flour, such as bread, all-purpose and pastry flours, which are made by Stybel and available in supermarkets.

Phyllis Glazer can be contacted c/o The Jerusalem Post Magazine, *P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem, 91000, or by e-mail: phyllisfood@jpost.co.il.*

Do not send stamped, self-addressed envelopes, as inquiries cannot be answered individually. Feedback also appears in The Jerusalem Post Magazine *on Friday.*

Wine Cellar

Advice on buying wine

By ROGA TARGOVSKY

It has become a cliche to say that the variety and sheer amount of wines available in Israel has grown immeasurably in the past few years, and yet, the statement remains true.

The diversity of wines and their places of origin is by now approaching the dizzying, many merchants try to sell us on what are basically mediocre wines by informing us dramatically that this or that is "a great X wine" – the X can be Italian, Chilean, Australian, Californian or French, take your pick. Most of us, not being international experts in wine, yet eager to try new, high-quality imports, don't know whether to believe and risk the money or adopt a skeptical view and stick to what we already know. Given that some of the imported wines are wonderful and some are average, this is a real dilemma.

Much the same can be said for Israeli wines. Local wineries now are eagerly modifying their bottles and their labels in an attempt to sell their products as excellent wines by international standards. Some of them are; others aren't. But spending a fortune on a wine that is not a sure thing is, in general, unadvised.

And, with that caveat, here are a few capsule reviews of Israeli wines available now:

Carmel Mizrahi Private Collection Emerald Riesling 1997: This wine has a floral bouquet that reminds me of the Far Eastern aromas of rose water and orchid blossoms. It has an intensity reminiscent of muscat rather than emerald riesling. With a pale color and a penetrating sweetness, it may be recommended as an aperitif wine.

Carmel Mizrahi Private Collection Sauvignon Blanc 1997: This sauvignon has a light, grassy aroma and a pale color. Unfortunately, it barely stays on the palate, leaving the impression of having too bland a flavor.

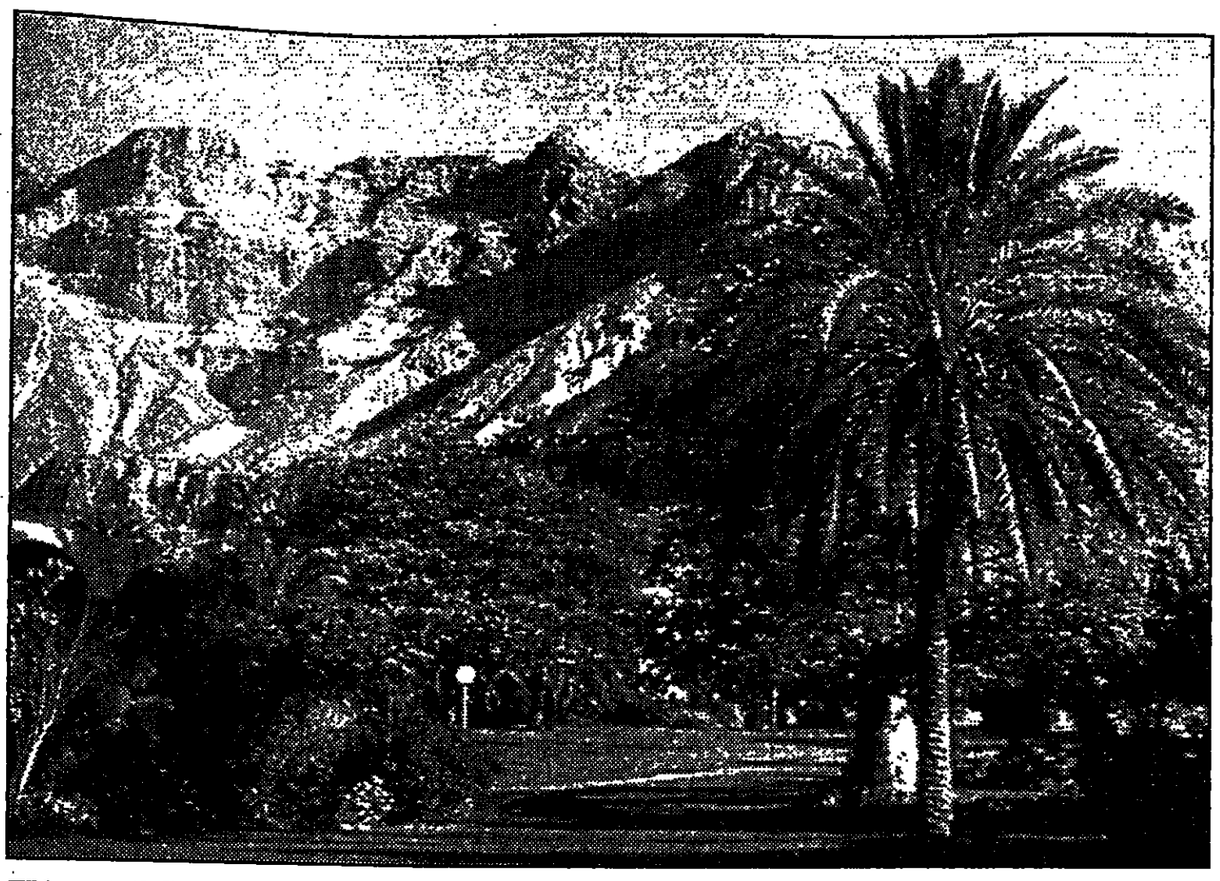
Carmel Mizrahi Private Collection Chardonnay 1997: This is the best of the lot, with its intense, buttery color and, if it is allowed to breathe a bit, a pleasant, light character. When drunk immediately after opening, I found it a bit coarse, but still acceptable.

Carmel Mizrahi Private Collection Merlot 1996: This wine, which has an attractive purplish color, has a one-dimensional flavor which hits you once and then disappears.

Carmel Mizrahi Private Collection Cabernet Sauvignon 1995: With a pleasant deep red color, but with remarkably little aroma, this is not one of the best cabernets produced in Israel today. It has a flat flavor which dissipates quickly.

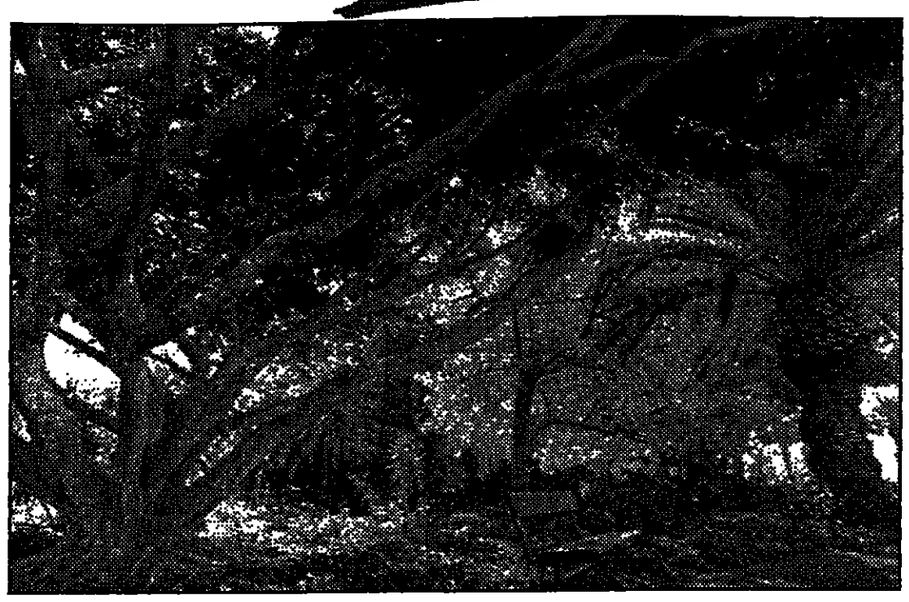
Domingo Rey Merlot 1997 (imported from Chile by Barkan): This is a difficult wine to classify because, for reasons unbeknownst to me, it has almost none of the characteristics of other merlots. With an attractive ruby red color but curiously little aroma or flavor, it is not unpleasant and should make a good picnic wine.

Ben Ami 1995: This is a dry red wine produced from a combination of cabernet sauvignon, merlot and carignan grapes. It is an acceptable wine, though it is somewhat coarse, with low levels of aroma and a flat flavor which, while not unpleasant, disappears almost as soon as you swallow. Like the Domingo Rey, I recommend it for picnics.



Kibbutz Ein Gedi, located on the shores of the Dead Sea, can maintain its extensive botanical garden because the area is a natural oasis, a well-watered fertile and sunny region in the midst of a desert.

Weekender Travel



Visitors to Ein Gedi's garden can find shade beneath this *Ficus Benjamina*, a tropical Asian tree. (Debbie Hill)

A garden fit for a prince

Day Tripper

By Haim Shapiro

Anyone who has read and liked *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry will enjoy visiting the botanical gardens at Kibbutz Ein Gedi – if only to witness the flourishing baobab trees.

The trees are part of a unique botanical garden, which is no less noteworthy for being spread all around kibbutz. It includes hundreds of species, although the casual visitor will probably not notice more than a few dozen.

The fact that such a garden could have been planted at all is largely thanks to the fact that Ein Gedi, on the shores of the Dead Sea, is an oasis, a well-watered fertile and sunny area in the midst of a desert.

The most evident aspect of the oasis is, of course, the Nahal David nature reserve where, with just a little effort, you can walk along the natural spring, climb to a series of waterfalls and even take a quick dip in the crystal pools. The reserve has been planned to accommodate large numbers of visitors. But like any such attraction, it is best visited in midweek to avoid the weekend mobs, and early in the morning before the buses start pulling up at the gate.

For the more adventurous, there are the upper falls of Nahal David and nearby Nahal Arugot, where the paths are not as accessible and the climbs are more difficult.

Although Nahal David was far from deserted when I visited it recently, about half a dozen ibex, including a mother with a young kid, came to within a few meters of us. In the trees we could see several hyraxes, fuzzy little mammals that are related to the elephant. The hyrax is the original *shafan* mentioned in the Bible.

On the trees and overhead we could spot the Tristram's starlings, black birds with orange wing tips and brilliant orange flashes on the undersides of their wings. According to the experts, there is only one leopard left in the area, a male whose territory extends far beyond the borders of the oasis of Ein Gedi. Needless to say, there was no sign of him.

However, it is also important to realize that the oasis has been settled for thousands of years. The most evident sign of earlier habitation is the ancient synagogue, which you can find by looking for the ultra-modern structure protecting the ancient building. Aside from its sheer beauty, the mosaic floor features a cluster of peacocks and a large menorah – as well as a curse for anyone disclosing the secret of the community. That secret was the manufacturing process for *afarsemon*, an ancient perfume which was literally worth its weight in gold in Roman times.

Although we are not sure exactly how the precious perfume was made, it apparently involved extracting the essential oils from the fragrant sap of a tree and allowing the impurities to separate by mixing the oils with water. It is not clear exactly which tree was used, but two candidates can be viewed in Ein Gedi's botanical gardens: one is a tree from the *Burseraceae* family from the southern part of the Arabian peninsula; the other from the same family is known as *Commiphora Habessinica*.

Although the plants and trees in the garden come from around the world, it is often the local ones which are the most interesting to the visitor. For example there is the *Calotropis Procera*, popularly known as the Sodom Apple, with large, round, hollow fruit, holding parachute-like seeds which are spread by the wind. In ancient times, the fibers of the seeds were often used as wicks for oil lamps.

A very special part of the botanical garden is known by kibbutz residents as Zalmanland, for Zalman Digmi, the kibbutz member who built, planted and still maintains an extensive cactus garden of some 900 species. Although the cactus is known as a plant of the New World, according to Digmi there are succulents in every desert environment.

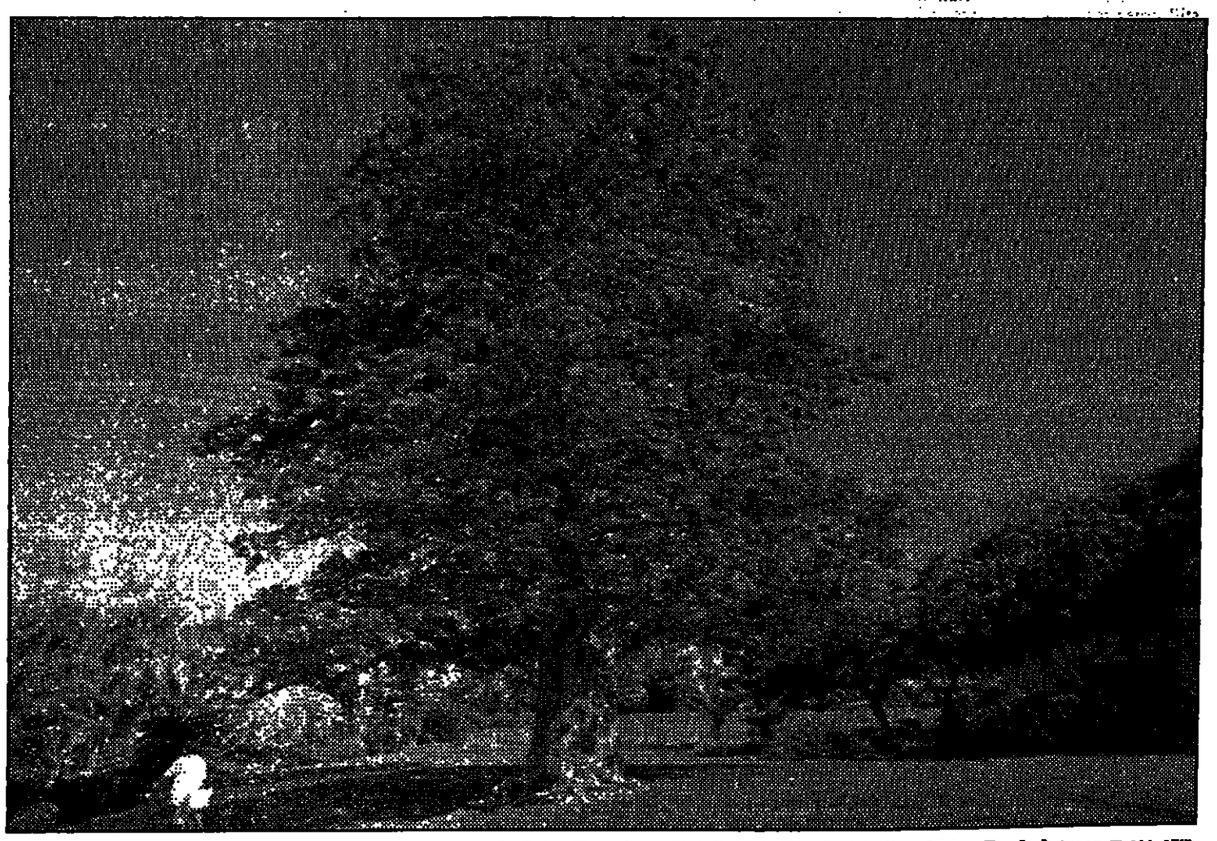
Zalman is just as interesting as his cacti. Until recently he lived in a shack adjoining the cactus garden. The avid gardener bemoans the fact that his wife forced him to move to a more conventional kibbutz home, leaving him less time to devote to his cacti. In time, he says, he will build a grand, new home for his wife, next to the cacti.

The Nahal David Nature Reserve is open daily from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is NIS 15 for adults and NIS 8 for children.

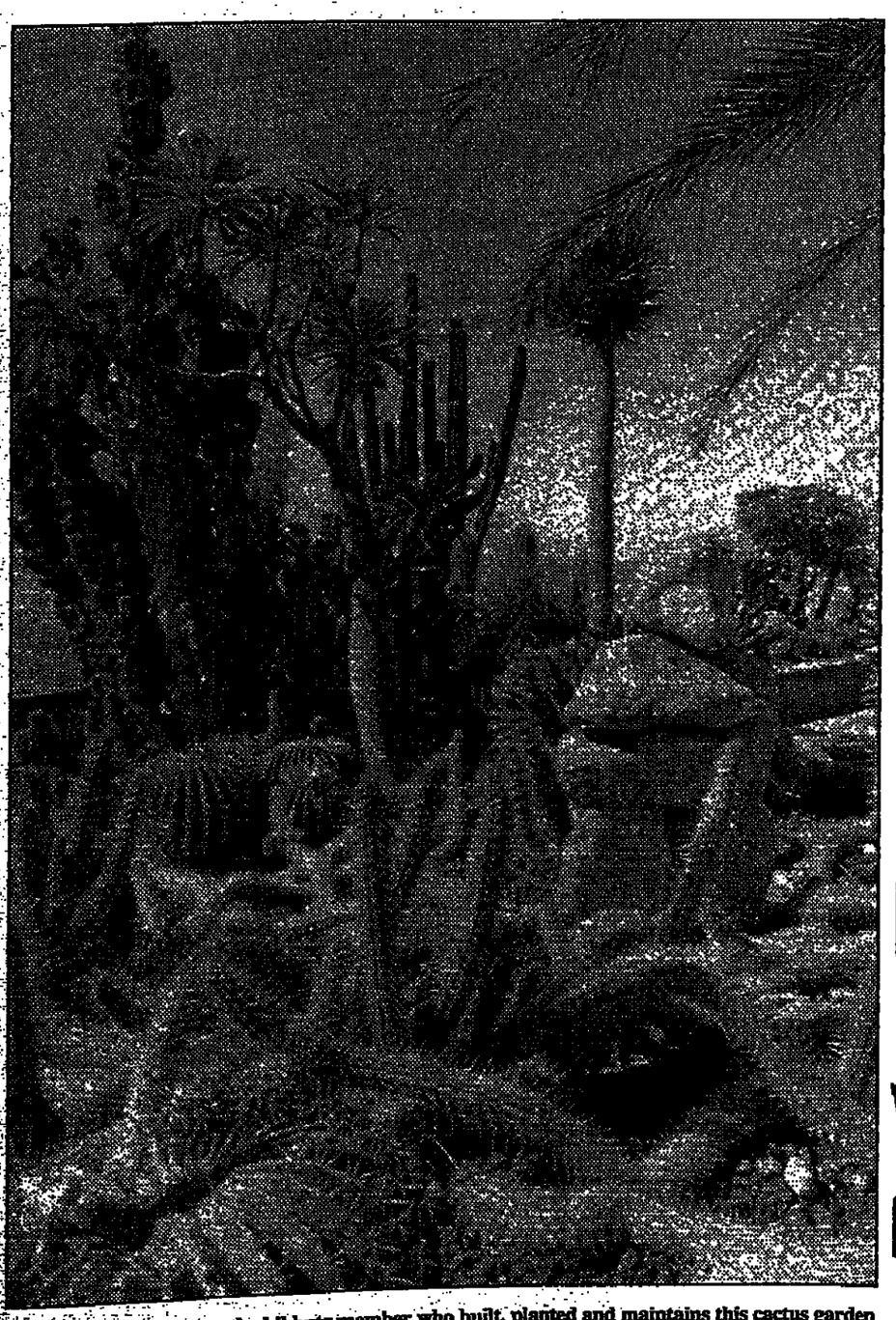
Visitors to the area can also take advantage of the Ein Gedi Spa, which has hot, natural sulphur baths, a fresh-water pool fed by natural springs, Dead Sea mud and a beach on the Dead Sea. The Spa is open from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Admission is NIS 45 for adults and NIS 20 for children on weekdays and NIS 49 and NIS 20 on Shabbat.

Unfortunately, because the botanical gardens are an integral part of the kibbutz, it is difficult to arrange for individual visits. Group tours are available if arrangements are made in advance, for NIS 17 for adults and NIS 13 for children. A combined group visit to the botanical gardens and the Ein Gedi Spa is NIS 35 for adults and NIS 20 for children. Occasionally there are tours for the public on Shabbat. To make arrangements or enquire about a Shabbat tour, tel. (07) 658-4125.

Visitors to the area can also sail on the ship Lot's Wife to the center of the Dead Sea. There are daily sailings at 2:30 p.m., lasting about 70 minutes. Tickets are NIS 35 for adults, NIS 25 for children.



Anyone who has enjoyed *The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry will delight in Ein Gedi's flourishing Baobab trees. (Debbie Hill)



Zalmanland, named for the kibbutz member who built, planted and maintains this cactus garden of some 900 species, is a highlight of the botanical garden. (Debbie Hill)

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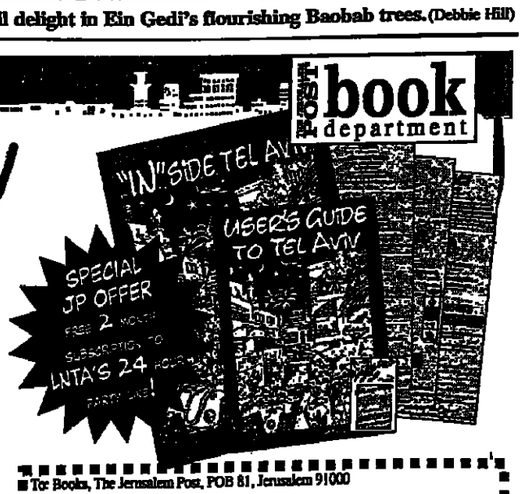
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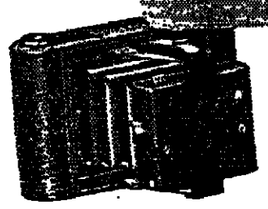
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Weekender Leisure



The big 'Jewish' picture



Edwin P. Land (1909-91), inventor of the Polaroid Land Camera for one-minute prints (Repro: David Brauner)

On Camera

By David Brauner

Unlike any other *Who's Who*, George Gilbert's *The Illustrated Worldwide Who's Who of Jews in Photography* is no mere alphabetical list of superficial biographies. Rather it is a wide-ranging historical survey, chronicling the lives of Jewish photographers and the role of photography in Jewish life.

As mentioned two weeks ago in this column, Gilbert traces the roots of photography back to the 14th-century Jewish astronomer Levi Ben-Gersom (1288-1344), who is credited with making the first use of the camera obscura ("dark room," essentially a filmless camera) to aid in his calculations.

Gilbert's entree into early Jewish photography was the result of his being called upon to help with a Yeshiva University exhibition honoring early American daguerreotypists.

Among the first and most prominent of these pioneers was Solomon Nunes Carvalho (1815-1897) of Charleston, South Carolina.

An artist-photographer, Carvalho joined the 1853 Fremont Expedition to seek a route for the transcontinental railroad. At the foot of the Rocky Mountains, winter overtook the ill-fated expedition and Carvalho lost all his equipment.

However, his plates of the plains, buffalo herds and Native Americans survived and were carried back to New York. Carvalho traveled on to Los Angeles in 1854, where he established the first Hebrew school.

JEWS IN Photography is dedicated to Erich Salomon (1886-1944).

"According to Red Cross records," writes Gilbert, "Erich Salomon died at Auschwitz in July 1944, a month after the Allies landed at Normandy."

Ironically, Salomon was a German soldier in World War I, and spent four years in a French POW camp. By 1926 he was a doctor of law. Working on contracts for advertising, he became intrigued by photography.

His interest in "fly on the wall" candid camera work, together with the timely invention of the handy, flashless Leica and the ready exposure in the new German illustrated weeklies, made a new career for Salomon. He coined a new word, *bildjournalist*, the German word for "photojournalist" still used to this day.

On the other side of the Holocaust coin are the stories of the Zeiss-Ikon and Leica firms.

In 1934, Zeiss employee Dr. Emmanuel Goldberg, an optical scientist and inventor of the microdot, was kidnapped by Nazi thugs, tied to a forest tree, and not found for three days.

The Zeiss management helped him and his family to escape to Paris. In 1937, he left France for Palestine, where he designed a new optical sighting system for Britain's Centurion tank that helped defeat Rommel in North Africa. Zeiss also harbored about 3,000 Jews and others as workers in their plant during the war.



Daguerreotype, c. 1849, self-portrait of Solomon Nunes Carvalho (1815-97), the first American Jewish daguerreotypist (Repro: David Brauner)

Meanwhile at Leica, six months after Kristallnacht, Ernst Leitz III began sending groups of mostly Jewish men and women, 20 to 30 at a time, to America, China and South Africa – wherever the firm had contacts.

He designated them as "technicians," "sales representatives" and "camera demonstrators" to qualify for exit visas. Many never actually worked for Leitz.

Leitz's daughter Elsie was imprisoned for a time for helping Jewish women escape to Switzerland.

BEFORE AND AFTER the war years, the Jewish contribution to photography radiated in many directions. Dezo Hoffman (1918-1985), a Czech Jew who covered Mussolini's invasion of Abyssinia (Ethiopia) and the Spanish Civil War, and later became a celebrity photographer, was ultimately hired as the official Beatles' photographer (1962-67).

He encouraged the band to adopt a "clean-cut, upbeat" image, but lost his job when a picture he took of John Lennon water-skiing showed his receding hairline.

New Yorker Arthur Fellig (1899-1968), better known as "Weegee," created a new kind of rough-edged news photography packed with "shock value," suited to the blood of gangland warfare and the tears of the Depression.

"Fellig was a night rover, looking for the kill with a flash gun, not a machine gun," writes Gilbert. Weegee's father was a rabbi.

Margaret Bourke-White (1904-71) was the only woman among *Life* magazine's first six staff photographers. Her monumental image of Fort Peck Dam, Montana, won its place in history as the magazine's first cover (November 23, 1936), and set the tone of things to come for the next three decades.

Bourke-White (Weiss) was the scion of David Solomon Weiss, an Orthodox Jew from Poland.

Alongside the big names Gilbert does not forget the relative unknowns.

One such photographer is Jerusalem's Kalman Weiss (1910?-) who, "unknown to the outside world, has documented [over the past 60 years] a world into which few can venture with a camera": Jerusalem's haredi community.

Weiss's 15,000 negatives, together with his handwritten catalogue, are now safely housed in the Jerusalem Municipal Archives.

Jewish names abound in the field of photographic science and invention.

Gabriel Lippman (1845-1921) won the 1908 Nobel Prize for introducing the first practical method for "reproducing colors photographically." Hungarian-born Dennis Gabor (1900-79) was also awarded a Nobel Prize (1971) for his invention of holography (lensless, three-dimensional photography).

Albert Einstein (1879-1955), together with his childhood friend and co-inventor Dr. Gustav Bucky, patented the "light-intensity, self-adjusting camera" in 1935 for the purpose of taking accurately exposed pictures during surgical operations.

Edwin Land (1909-91) was inspired to invent the "instant" Polaroid camera in 1948 when he photographed his three-year old daughter, who innocently asked, "Why do I have to wait to see my picture?"

If pressed to explain the Jewish affinity for photography, one can do no better than to paraphrase the late Dr. Tim Gidal, who suggested that it is a Jewish trait to explore, experiment, take risks and seek out new vistas and visions, all of which are embodied in the art and science of photography.

(With thanks to Danny Kyram for the loan of his copy of Gilbert's *Who's Who of Jews in Photography*.)

Your photography questions and comments are welcome. Contact David Brauner, e-mail: morrir@mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for David" in the subject line) or fax 02-563-7792 or c/o Photo Archives, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Bridge

High stakes in London club

By MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

East deals
Neither side vulnerable

North
♠932
♥KQ942
♦QJ
♣K83

West (Cohen)
♠-
♥8753
♦108542
♣Q964

East (Glubok)
♠J10864
♥-
♦K963
♣10752

South
♠AKQ75
♥AJ106
♦A7
♣AJ

West	North	East	South
-	-	pass	2♠
pass	3♥	pass	4 NT
pass	5♣	pass	5 NT
pass	6♥	pass	7♥
double	pass	pass	7 NT
(all pass)			

Opening lead: ♥8

One of the highest staked rubber bridge games in the world is played at TGR's Club in London. This week's deal, reported to me by the East player, Brian Glubok, comes from the 50 pound/100 game. This means that every 100 points is worth 50 English pounds. So, for example, a vulnerable three notrump, making, would be worth 600 points or £300.

Glubok was East, partnered by the club's proprietor, Howard Cohen (West).

Glubok never made a bid but after South opened two spades, Glubok had high hopes of defending a spade slam with his five-card spade suit.

Unfortunately for him, the bidding took a different route. When North bid his hearts, South went immediately to Blackwood, asking for aces. North replied five clubs, showing zero aces, which shouldn't have surprised South – he had all of them!

When South bid five notrump, asking for kings, North showed two kings with his six-heart reply, and South ventured seven hearts. This contract is excellent, but as the cards lie, it could be defeated if East leads a spade on opening lead and West trumps it. Indeed, Cohen doubled the grand slam, asking partner to lead the first suit bid by dummy (spades). This double is known as the "Lightner Double."

South, however, also understood the meaning of the double, so he ran to seven notrump. Now West was on lead. Cohen led the eight of hearts against seven notrump and Glubok, upon seeing the dummy, started to contemplate the possibility that declarer would eventually lead the nine of spades from dummy. *Would he cover the* nine with his ten? *If he played low* on the nine, would South have the nerve to finesse him for both the jack and 10 of spades?

Declarer won the first trick in his hand with the ace of hearts, as Glubok discarded a club. Then he led a heart to dummy and called for the nine of spades. Glubok was ready. He played low. If he had covered, declarer could win, return to dummy with a heart and lead another spade. East would have to play the eight to force a spade honor. But declarer could return to dummy, cash his heart tricks, discarding the five of spades, take the diamond finesse, and then lead the last spade from dummy to finesse his seven, completing a triple finesse in spades.

Glubok played low on the nine of spades with nerves of steel (and a large number of English pounds in his account to cover his losses if he was wrong). Declarer thought about the situation a long time and deduced that since West had doubled the seven-heart contract for a spade lead, West must be void in spades and Glubok must hold all the remaining spades. So declarer also played low and the nine of spades won the trick. After that declarer took the diamond finesse, and when that held, he claimed 13 tricks (four spades, five hearts, two diamonds and two clubs).

That was a mere 1,510 points for a grand total of £755 (at least NIS 4,000, give or take a few, and more if they count 150 honors for the aces in the South hand). Glubok told me he was in a state of shock for a few seconds but then came out of it, bracing himself for a long afternoon at the club. Rubber bridge players do not give up so easily. "I had been to the London mikve that morning and davened as well," said Glubok (a newly observant Jew), "so I knew that the cards would turn. I was right. By the end of that session I'd won back the points."

Readers may contact Mattew Granovetter by e-mail at gran@netvision.net.il

Smooth sales ahead

Flair

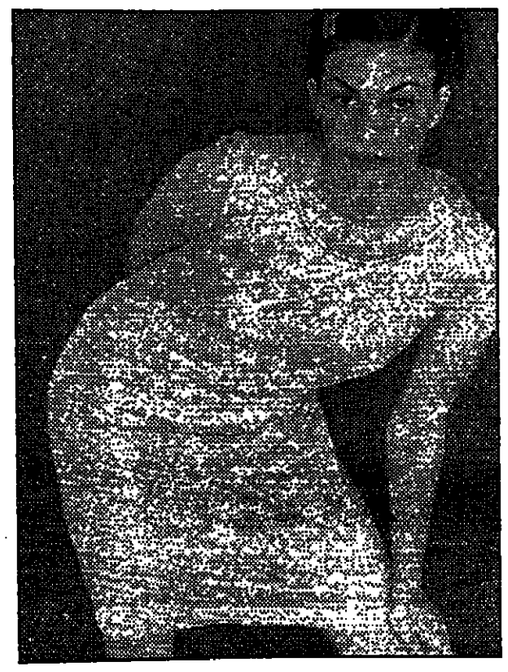
By Greer Fay Cashman

Because Israel has long summers and short winters, end-of-season summer sales are usually much more fun and much more protracted than the winter ones.

But this year, anyone looking for real bargains should take a little longer to check out the market.

The reason: the Chinese invasion. Even though Chinese merchandise has been available in Israel for several years, it is only in the past year or two that clothing and other textile goods manufactured in China have made a visible impact.

Some of the products are well-made. Others leave much to be desired. But the bottom line is that compared to most local apparel and imports from just about anywhere else, they're dirt cheap. So in general, if you want to pay a rock-bottom price for something that looks a little more expensive, go for the "Made in China" label.



At the budget-priced chain Bon-Mart, you can buy this any-occasion dress for just NIS 99.99.

There are occasional exceptions. Local manufacturers who produce goods for major American companies often keep the surplus and release it here under their own labels at ridiculously low prices – like NIS 15 for a T-shirt that costs NIS 120 with the multinational brand name. This explains why, when foraging at the bazaar and bargain stores proliferating here, you may turn a low-priced tank dress inside out and find seams that are perfectly sewn and overlocked and no fraying edges.

What can be off-putting in these stores is the quality of the fabric. Some of the synthetics are so rough to the touch, that even if you got them for nothing, you wouldn't want to wear them.

But once you go rummaging a little further, you will frequently come across pure cottons which may be slightly dearer, but still reasonably priced, or synthetics with more inviting surfaces. An affluent friend loves these bazaar shops, were she buys up a huge variety of attractive, elastic-waisted, comfortably fitting and well-styled pants at around NIS 20 a pair and coordinates them with equally inexpensive but nice-looking tops.

Imagine getting a whole new outfit for under NIS 50! It can be done, and not just in the casual-wear department. You might also find a terrific formal blouse or sexy body-suit in the same price range, though it may cost you NIS 100 for something more dressy.

End-of-season bargains can sometimes be found in upscale stores, too.

My friend Sonia, who has a good eye for a bargain, frequents stores such as Oui Set, Miss Lagotte and Hagara at the end of the season. She always comes home with gorgeous things reduced to NIS 200-NIS 300, which may seem like a lot compared to the abovementioned NIS 15 and NIS 20 items, but is actually peanuts compared to these stores' usual prices.

I'm not so lucky. Everything I want to buy in Miss Lagotte costs around NIS 1,700 before the reductions of 50 to 70 percent, and I just don't fancy paying NIS 800 for anything at a sale no matter whose label is on it. I even balk at NIS 150, because I know how many similar things can be had at a much lower prices.

That's why I can't be tempted even at Hamashbir, where prices for She and Apres still hover around the NIS 150 mark even after 20 to 50 percent discounts.

The same goes for Polgat's surplus stores, which are offering the same ratio of discounts, but have window displays featuring T-shirts for NIS 49.90 and Bermuda shorts for NIS 129. Prices like that – at this time of year in a surplus store – are a little hard to swallow.

Bon-Mart, the chain which sells budget-priced clothes all year round, has not radically reduced prices for its end-of-season sale, but you can get an any-occasion dress for NIS 99.99 and a sleeveless safari suit for NIS 149.98.

But the best of the best sales is at Garage, where you can get a tricot jumpsuit for an unbelievable NIS 9.99!



Prices for She and Apres ladies wear at Hamashbir, after 20-50 percent discounts, hover near the NIS 150 mark.

Chess

Armenians on the rampage

By NIGEL SHORT

The Armenians rampaged through last month's New York Open, taking the top three prizes. Artashes Minasian was first (earning $15,000), Smbat ("The Sailor") Lputian second, and Vladimir Akopian third.

Lputian is a paradoxical character who always seems to play well, but whose rating never goes up. Obviously, he either confines his failures to the more obscure events, or (just as likely) my impressions are totally wrong. Anyway his controlled belligerence is very suitable for tournaments such as these, where victories carry a particularly heavy premium.

White: Smbat Lputian
Black: Maxim Dlugy
New York Open, 1998

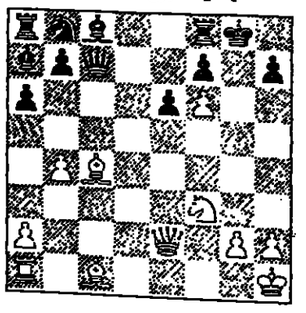
1. d4 d5 2. c4 dxc4 Maxim Dlugy, a former World Junior Champion, has played the Queen's Gambit Accepted practically since birth. In his days as an active player he had his exceedingly narrow repertoire worked out to such a degree that he could dash off his opening moves with the minimum of thought.

While this was doubtless convenient, it was hardly conducive to his long-term development and indeed one sensed even in those early days that, despite his successes, his heart was not really in the game. He quit chess for finance in his mid-twenties and now plays only rarely.

3. e3 e6 4. Bxc4 Nf6 5. Nf3 c5 6. Qe2 a6 7. dxe5 Bxc5 8. e4 Qc7 9. e5 Ng4 10. 0—0 Nxf2?! Formerly this was considered to be good but in fact it is exceptionally risky. The tactical justification is that 11. Rxf2 Bxf2+ 12. Kxf2 b5 wins material, but Black loses a great deal of time if White simply ignores this. Probably Dlugy was not *au fait* with the most recent developments.

11. b4!? A novelty, but Ivan Sokolov's 11. Nc3! has also been scoring well. **11. ...Nh3+ 11. ...Ba7 12. Be3** was the idea. Dlugy hopes for a draw with this double check. **12. Kh1 Nf2+ 13. Rxf2** Of course. **13 ...Bxf2 14. Nbd2 Ba7 15. Ne4** and White has obtained a substantial initiative for the sacrificed exchange. **15 ...0-0 16. Nf6+! gxf6 17. exf6**

Black (Dlugy) to play



White (Lputian)

The critical position. **17 ...Nd7?** Losing. The situation was perilous but with 17 ...Rd8! 18. Bd3 (not 18. Ne5? Qxe5 19. Qg4+ Kf8 20. Bh6+ Ke8 21. Qg8+ Kd7 22. Rdl+ Bd4 23. Qxf7+ Kc6 and Black escapes.) 18 ...Nd7 19. Bxh7+ Kh8 Black has hopes to defend and, who knows, maybe even win the game if the knock-out punch fails to land.

18 Qd2! Rd8. Hopeless, but after 18 ...Kh8 19. Qh6 Rg8 20. Bd3 Nf8 21. Ng5 Qd7 22. Bf4 mate could no longer be prevented.

19. Qg5+ Kf8 20. Bf4 Qc6 20 ...Qxc4 21. Bd6+ Ke8 22. Qg8+ Nf8 23. Qxf8! Kd7 24. Ne5 mate was a pretty alternative.

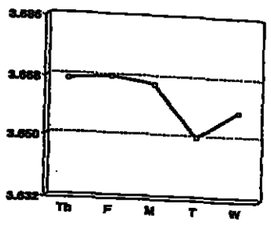
21. Rdl Nxf6 Sheer despair. **22. Rxd8+ Ne8 23. Ne5** and Black resigned. A gruesome massacre.

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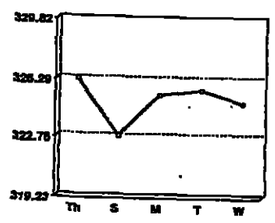
MARKETS

in brief

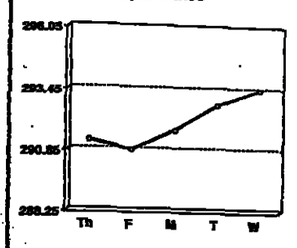
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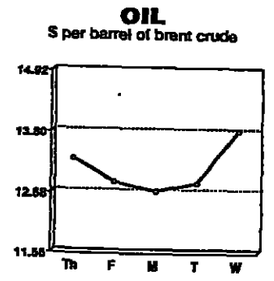
MAOF INDEX



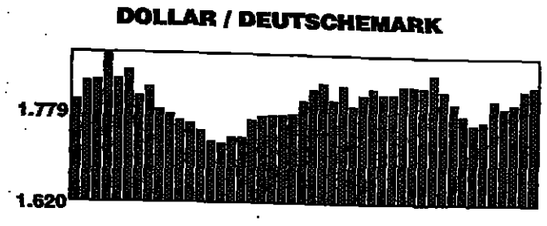
GOLD
$ per ounce



OIL
$ per barrel of brent crude

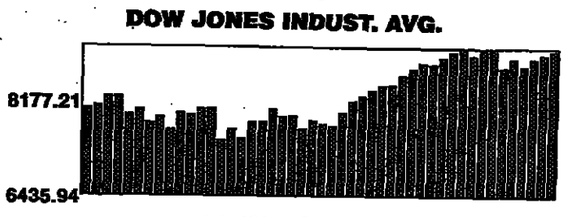


DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



July 1997 – July 1998

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July 1997 – July 1998

Companies' activity unchanged in 2nd qtr.

The economic activity of local companies remained almost unchanged in the second quarter, the Bank of Israel announced yesterday.

Industrial, commerce, transportation and communication companies reported that activity remained stable, while building companies and hotels said activity fell. In addition, most firms don't forecast an increase in activity in the third quarter, indicating that the economic slowdown is expected to continue.

However, the Purchasing Managers' Index for June indicated that the economy may be on its way to recovery. Although the Association of Purchasing Managers and Dun and Bradstreet said the index remained unchanged, most of its components rose. D&B said that if these increases continue next month it might indicate that the economy is finally recovering.

The most encouraging rise was in exports, which increased for the first time after two consecutive months of declines, with the majority of purchasing mangers reporting that demand rose.

Dan Gerstenfeld

Israir opens line to Kiryat Shmona

Israir, which has been competing with Arkia for the past year in providing air passenger service to Eilat, began flying to Kiryat Shmona yesterday .

The company said it plans to compete with Arkia on its fares, charging NIS 72 each way for residents of the North, compared to the NIS 97 charged by Arkia, and NIS 140 for other passengers, in comparison with Arkia's fare of NIS 160. Israir also said it plans to serve a light breakfast on morning flights.

Haim Shapiro

Knesset Economics panal advances housing bill

The Knesset Economics Committee yesterday passed a key clause in the public housing bill submitted by MKs Ran Cohen (Meretz) and Shevah Weiss (Labor) when MK Yitzhak Vaknin (Shas) sided with the opposition.

Vaknin said after the meeting that Shas would support the bill in final reading in the plenum, despite the cabinet decision on Sunday to sell off the public housing stock at discount prices.

The Likud MKs, led by coalition chairman Meir Sheetrit, stalked out of the committee before the vote.

Sheetrit had proposed that instead of continuing to vote on the clauses of the Cohen-Weiss proposal, a committee – including Cohen, Weiss, committee chairman Avi Yehezkel, the committee's legal adviser and himself – meet to draft the wording of the bill and the reservations to it. But the opposition members said Sheetrit was just trying to buy time and had refused to promise to bring the bill before the plenum.

Dan Izenberg

Treasury considers tax on 2nd luxury properties

The Finance Ministry is considering imposing a tax on luxury second apartments as a way of funding the planned reduction in property tax *(mas rechush)*, Treasury officials told MKs yesterday. The Knesset Finance Committee yesterday discussed the Treasury's proposal to reduce the tax from 2.5 percent to 1.2%.

Committee chairman Avraham Ravitz (United Torah Judaism) said the Treasury should cut the tax to 1% and move towards its abolition over the next four years.

David Harris

Cemex considers investing here

Cemex SA, the international cement concern based in Mexico, is considering investing here, according to its CEO Lorenzo Zambrano Trevino, who is visiting here this week. Zambrano met on Tuesday with Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky, representatives from Koor Industries, the Recanati family (which controls Clal Israel), and Nesher, which holds a monopoly in local cement production.

Cemex, with annual sales of $3.8 billion, is one of the world's three largest producers of cement and the largest producer of white cement. It has 38 factories in eight countries.

In the past few years, Cemex has expanded its activities in the Middle East and has dealings here, in Egypt, Kuwait and Greece. Zambrano said Israel is a potential bridge for countries in the Middle East and Europe, due to its free trade agreement with the EU.

Sharansky noted that Israel and Mexico are negotiating a free trade agreement, which would boost cooperation between companies in both countries.

Nina Gilbert

Clal to conduct 20% of activity abroad

By DAN GERSTENFELD

Clal Israel yesterday announced a new strategic plan which will include conducting 20 percent of its activities abroad. In addition, Israel's second-largest conglomerate has decided to invest $1 billion to develop its business over the next five years.

The decision to start operating abroad marks a change in the policy of the conservative holding company, which in the past preferred to focus on maintaining its position as a leading player in the local market.

The new strategy is a direct outcome of changes in Clal's management, such as the appointment of Bezeq Israel Telecom's former president, Yitzhak Kaul, as Clal's CEO in November 1997.

"The move marks a real revolution," Kaul said. "In the age of globalization, we need to expand our activity abroad. Large international groups are already active here and it's hard to expand our activity in the local market.

"We want to acquire companies abroad which deal in areas close to our core business in which we have a relative advantage," Kaul said. "We are interested in buying a controlling share in such companies."

He added that Clal will focus its efforts on investments in Europe and the Middle East.

Analysts said that the move was necessary as Clal hasn't made any significant investments in the local market in the last several years.

"The change was inevitable," said Avital Bar-Dayan, an analyst at Solid Capital Markets. "The activity of the concern in Israel is quite limited and it needed to expand its activities outside. Clal, as the weakest arm of the IDB group, didn't offer its shareholders any added value."



Yitzhak Kaul

She added, however, that despite the promising change it is yet to be seen how will the company act.

"The bombastic announcement is positive, but Clal hasn't mentioned anything specific. We also need to remember that Clal's management does not have any relative advantage outside Israel," she said.

The company said that it also has decided to set up two new groups for investments in the environment and data communications fields.

The company's board of directors also approved increasing its leverage ratio to 35% of its assets from the current 21% to 25%. By doing so, Clal follows other leading Israeli companies which chose to increase their return on equity by raising their leverage ratio.

Clal also has stated that it will change its dividend policy and will start to distribute an annual dividend of at least 25% of its net income and no less than 50% of the dividend given by its subsidiaries.

Analysts also said that the change in Clal's attitude also reflects the fact that the company's management is well aware of investors' feeling the Clal is lagging behind Koor Industries, Israel largest holding company, which has been changing since the Claridge Israel group took control of it last year.



Protest in India

Supporters of the Communist Party of India shout slogans against the World Trade Organization yesterday during a demonstration in New Delhi. More than 1,000 activists protested to demand India's withdrawal from WTO agreements, which they argue are "anti-farmer" and "anti-labor". (Reuters)

El Al to buy 5 new aircraft for $600m.

By HAIM SHAPIRO

El Al is to acquire five new long-range, medium-sized aircraft, with the first two scheduled to begin service in the year 2000, a company spokesman said yesterday. The company plans to choose between the Boeing 777 or the Airbus A-340, both of which can carry about 300 passengers. The aircraft are expected to cost some $600 million, the spokesman said.

The first shot in what could become another bitter contest between the American Boeing company and the European Airbus Industrie was fired by Boeing, which has sent El Al a model of its new 777 with the new El Al livery.

In December 1997, after fierce competition between the two companies, El Al decided to accept a bid by Boeing to supply a new fleet of five medium-range aircraft. El Al insisted that the decision was not motivated by political pressure from the US, but Airbus said afterwards it was clear that El Al had acted as it had in the wake of American pressure on Israel.

At the time, aviation sources here had expressed fear that El Al's decision would mean it would be more difficult for the company to negotiate the best possible terms in any future purchase. The acquisition concluded in December was estimated at about $200m.

The decision followed feverish attempts by both companies to gain the contract, including sending models of the planes to Israel for test flights. El Al offered its frequent flyer passengers the chance to try out the passenger facilities in both aircraft.

June CPI up 0.4%; first half up 2.2%

By DAVID HARRIS

The consumer price index (CPI) rose a higher-than-expected 0.4 percent in June to 156.5, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday.

The rise in the CPI totaled 2.2% in the first half of the year, and bureau economists said they expect inflation to end the year at 4% or slightly higher.

While analysts had predicted a June index around 0% or even below, price rises for clothing, footwear, transport and communications pushed the index above 0% for the third consecutive month.

During the second quarter of the year the index rose 2.2%, after prices remained stable during the first three months.

The housing index rose 2.2% during the first six months, most of which was due to an appreciation of the dollar against the shekel.

Clothing and footwear prices rose 4.7% last month. The clothing index increased 5.3%, while that for footwear rose 2.4%.

The transport and communications index rose 0.8%, the main rises being in the costs of overseas trips (3.5%), removal services (2.8%) and telephone calls (2%).

Housing prices went up 0.5%, while goods for the upkeep of apartments increased 0.4%. Paints rose 2.5% and washing powder 1.2%.

These were offset to some extent by cheaper prices for household heating (-4.8%).

The index that measures the prices of furniture and equipment for apartments rose 0.2%, and the cost of health services increased 0.6%, primarily due to a 4.4% jump in charges for private surgery.

Good news for consumers was to be found in the greengrocers, where the fruit and vegetables index dropped 6%, with eggplants down 36.8% and green beans 21.1%.

The Manufacturers Association once again used the publication of the CPI as an opportunity to call on the Bank of Israel to reduce its key lending rate in order to return the economy to a path of growth rather than recession.

Trade with Egypt slides; soars with Jordan

By NINA GILBERT

Exports to Egypt fell 14 percent and imports by 32% in the first half of the year, while sales to Jordan more than doubled, according to trade figures released by the Central Bureau of Statistics this week.

In the first six months of the year, exports to Egypt totaled $24.5 million, compared with $28.5m. in the same period last year. The decline follows a 5% drop in exports for 1997, after years of continuous expansion.

Imports, up in 1997, dropped to $8.2m. in the first half of the year, from $12.2m. a year earlier.

Exports to Jordan soared in the first half of the year to $13.4m., compared with $6.8m. last year. Imports rose 14%, to $7.1m., from $6.2m.

Gabby Bar, head of the Industry and Trade Ministry's Middle East trade department, attributed the decline in trade with Egypt to a lack of contact between the Israeli and Egyptian business communities and the diplomatic environment.

"The political situation creates fears among businesspeople who might otherwise be interested in advancing dealings," he said. "There is a standstill in economic relations, which have not even partially reached their potential, and advancement in the peace process would serve as a signal" for advancing economic ties.

Bar said there has also been a significant drop in trips by businessmen from both sides since the arrest of Israeli textile worker Azzam Azzam in late 1996.

Egyptian commercial counselor Magdi Farahat said trade has been fairly stable over the past three years. His figures show it hovering around $80 million annually, after years of expansion.

"Obviously, Israeli-Egyptian trade has stopped growing because of the political situation," he said. "There is no longer the wish to push it forward."

At the same time, he said Israel and Egypt "have not even realized 50 percent of their trade potential," he added.

"Egypt has no problem with buying Israeli products, which are of high-quality and can be cheaper compared with products from other countries due to lower transportation costs," he said.

Israel Export Institute Director-General Amir Hayek said he did not believe that those people who are doing good business with Egypt would stop their activities due to the stalemate in the peace process. However, he said, the political situation hampers the establishment of new business ties.

"The best way to develop economic ties with Egypt is through joint ventures. The buying power of Israel's neighbors is low compared with its main export markets of US and Europe," he noted, saying the sides should establish equal partnerships for exports to third countries.

Hayek said trade ties with Jordan have developed at a rapid pace due to its geographic proximity, compared to Egypt.

Bar attributed the boost in trade with Jordan to trade agreements signed earlier this year, including the establishment of a Qualified Industrial Zone agreement for Irbid, and the increased flow in businessmen from both sides.

On Sunday, Hayek led a delegation of 160 Israeli businessmen who visited Gaza to meet with Palestinian counterparts and hear about opportunities for establishing businesses in the Karni Industrial Park, on the Gaza Strip's border with Israel.

No Israeli company has yet signed a deal to set up a joint venture in the park, although many have expressed interest.

Tunisian gov't buys Israeli computerization system

By NINA GILBERT

The Tunisian government has purchased a system made by a high-tech company based in Bnei Brak for use in its national health insurance institute, the company said yesterday.

Typereader is to provide the system through a Tunisian distribution company which supplies products to its government.

"The system is one of our scanning products which allows the entry of numerical data into computer systems," CEO Meir Plevinski said.

He said the company made contact with the Tunisians, who were looking for such a solution, at an exhibition in London. "We are now working directly with them through our offices here," he said.

He said the system, which costs $1,200 per unit, would be installed in stages. It will enable the national insurance institute to process forms through a scanner linked to a computer database, instead of entering in the information manually.

"This is our first direct sale to an Arab country," he said, noting that the system could have been obtained by others countries through a third party.

Israel and Tunisia don't have full diplomatic ties but maintain mutual interest offices.

The systems are being used by the Israeli government, in the Education, Health and Defense ministries, Plevinski said.

Typereader, whose flagship product is AcuForm, is jointly owned by Plevinski and ITTI Ltd., a company owned by a group of American investors.

Survey: Single European currency may crash before 2004

By JULIE CRUST

The single European currency, the euro, might not last five years after its Jan. 1, 1999 introduction, according to a survey of money managers controlling more than $1.8 trillion, or 40 percent of assets under management in the U.K., the *Wall Street Journal Europe* reported.

Nearly every respondent in the survey by consulting firm Mitchell Madison Group said the euro could collapse within five years, though 62% said there was a less than 25% chance compared to 4%, who said the odds for a collapse were greater than 75%.

Mitchell Madison partner Sandy McGuffog said that in view of the survey's findings it was "extremely worrying" that of those surveyed "less than 50% have a risk-management plan in place to deal with the situation, and a vast majority do not intend to have a plan in the near future," the paper reported.

A majority of Swiss voters is skeptical about the introduction of the euro and only one in every five voters viewed its introduction positively, Volkswirtschaft magazine said on July 8, citing an opinion poll by GfS Research Institute. (Bloomberg)

TARGET יעד
(מטרה)
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date:	14.7.98
Purchase Price:	139.75
Redemption Price:	137.56

MUTUAL FUNDS LEUMI Pia

PRIME פריים
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date:	14.7.98
Purchase Price:	121.31
Redemption Price:	119.77

MUTUAL FUNDS LEUMI Pia

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.



JOIN IDB TELEBANK. DIAL 03-5129111 FROM 8 AM TO 11 PM.
ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

TEL AVIV 100 & LEADING SHARES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Africa Hotels	450	0
Africa Israel 0.1	20100	1
Africa Israel 1	167000	-0.1
Agis	2440	0.8
Al Paper Mills	14270	-1.4
Al-Rov	2600	0
Azorim	3930	2.4
Azorim Prop.	580	-1.7
Bank Leumi 0.1	711	-1.4
Baran	2920	0
Bayside 1	42800	-1.9
Bayside 5	203000	1.2
Bezeq	1177	-0.5
Blue Square	4630	0.6
Bramco	3160	2.2
Cal Electronics	52500	1
Clal Industries	1954	0.2
Clal Insurance	3380	-2.1
Clal Israel 1	100.1	-0.1
Dan Hotels	1198	0.3
Danimer	2000	2.3
Darban	950	0
Dead Sea Works 0.1	836	1.9
Delek 0.1	14350	-0.5
Delek Car	714	0
Development Mort	22500	0.9
Discount Bank	476	0
Discount Inv.	11650	-0.6
Elbit 0.003	870	0
Elbit imaging	2910	-0.7
Elbit system	4750	-0.4
Elco	1800	-1.6
Elco Industries	3130	-8.6
Electra	16500	-1
Electra App	1990	2.9
Elite Ind. 1	2240	-0.9
Elite Ind. 5	11530	-1.2
Elron 0.003	5360	0
FIBI 5	3360	1.2
First Int'l 1	533	0.4
First Int'l 5	2770	0.4
First Int'l Mort	50400	0
Formula	12420	-1.3
General Bank	11000	0
Grand Hacarmel	720	-2.8
Hadarim Prop.	8250	-2.4
Ham-Let	2000	0
Hapoalim 0.1	1054	-1
Harel Mishmar 1	3500	-2.9
Harel Mishmar 5	16700	0
I.D.B. Dev	9600	0
I.D.B. Holdings	8450	-0.4
IDC	2230	2.2
Ind Bldgs	590	0
Israel Chemicals	455	-0.2
Israel Corp. 1	32500	3.1
Isrotel	660	0
Jakora	902	0
JCT	37	-1.1
JEC	1850	-2.7
Kitan	300	-3
Knafaim	4700	-0.2
Koor	44300	-2.3
Leader	1268	0
Leumi Insurance	212	-1.9
Leumi Mortgage	78400	0
Liraz	3530	-2
Makhteshim Agan Ind.	1039	-0.6
Maman	564	-0.9
Matab	4620	-2.8
Mehadrin	14000	0.7
Mei Eden	1560	0
Mellisaron	1030	0
Menorah Ins. 1	2170	0
Milomor	1590	-0.6
Mishkan	65800	0.2
Mizrahi Inv.	8200	0
NATSVA REGULAR	1305	-3.4
Nice Systems	13740	-0.4
Opt	7850	1.9
Orbit	1399	3.5
Ormat Industries	499	2.6
Osem Industries	1741	1.7
Petrochemicals	2020	-2
Phoenix Ins. 1	5400	-1.9
Poalim Inv	12850	-0.2
Prop & Bldg	32000	0
Saif Industries	2060	0.5
Solel Bone	42980	-1.4
Supersol	1190	-0.1
Tadiran	12030	0.3
Tambour	574	4.7
Telefrol	200000	0
Tempo	1550	-0.6
Teva	12530	2.5
Undan	260	1.9
Wire and Cables	1110	3
Yavng Industries	900	0

KARAM SMALL CAPITALIZATION & IPO ISSUES

	LAST	CHANGE*
Boulous GD	392	0
Solomon Holdings	420	-2.3
Abjac	21	0
Abudi	45	0
Ace-Spade	93	0
Ackerstein Bond B	152.4	0
Ackerstein Ind.	480	0.2
Ackerstein Zvi 1	1782	0
Ackerstein Zvi 5	7010	0
adakoon	36.5	0
Adanim	356091	0
Adler	102	0
Adsha	148.5	0
Adumim	163.5	-8.4
Africa Hotels Bond B	89.2	0.1
Africa Hotels Warrant 2	56	-5.4
Africa Israel Hotels Bond A	131.5	0
Alpeh Ind	1040	0
Agro Warrant 3	16	18.6
Agis Warrant 4	433	-15.2
Agrish Int'l	396	0
Agri Investments	441	2.5
Al-Ben	125	0
Al-Ben Bond A	109	0
Alhe c2	95	0
Alhe w6	148.6	-5.4
Alflance	760	0
Alom	301	0
Alony-Hetz	500	-1
Alony-Hetz Bond A	244	0
Alrod	174	-0.5
Alrod Warrant 1	4.4	0
Alrov Bond D	76.7	0
Alrov Warrant 5	349	0
Alumir	206	2
Alumit	2466	-5.5
Amigur	180	0
Amitec	241	0
Ammeli Warrant 1	28.6	0
Amnal	603	0
Ampa Investments	118900	-0.9
Analyst EMS	770	-2.6
Angel Trade	31.9	-0.6
Angel Trade Bond A	143.5	0
Angel Trade Bond B	103	1.5
Angel Trade Bond C	58	2.7
Apcon	390	1
Apcon warrant 1	297	-1
Applicom	3100	-2.3
Aracell Warrant 2	347	2
Arad	1590	0
Arad Towels	871	0
Arazim	78	0
Arazim Bond 1	239	0
Argaman	245	0
Arkadon	1023	0
Arpal	338	0
Aryt	145.2	-1.9
Ashkelon Plywood	582	-2.2
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 1	237	0
Ashkelon Plywood Bond 2	124	0
Ashlad	963	0
Ashtad Bond A	151.5	1.3
Ashor	295	3.1
Ashot Bond A	163	0
Ashpara	77	0.7
Ashtrom Bond 1	172	0
Ashtrom Bond 2	147.7	0
Ashtrom Ind.	513	0
Ashtrom Prop.	185	0
Astrom P Bond 1	88	0
Astrom p warrant a	27	0
Astrum Bond C	92.5	1.1
Astrum Warrant 2	30	0
Aston	87.5	0
Atmor	2280	-0.9
ATX	199	0.5
ATX Bond A	152.5	0
Atzmon	223	0
Aura	4300	-2.3
Avarot	330	-3
Avarot Bond A	158.2	0
Averbuch Formica	545	0
Aviv	345	0
Aviv Bond 1	150.5	0
Aviv Bond 2	86	0.6
Aviner	2	0
Avrot Bond 2	81.7	0.1
Avrot Warrant 2	41	-7.3
Aydon	480	0
Azimuth	435	0
Azorim Properties Bond 3	166.4	-0.2
Azorim Warrant 13	425	-1.4
Azorim Warrant 5	98	0.1
Azorim Warrent A	600	0
Azorim Warrent B	670	4.5
Badash Bond 1	45.1	-4
Baldfi	404	5.6
Balentine 1	144.5	0
Balentine Bond A	126	0
Balentine Warrant 2	4	0
Balron	3500	0
Bama'asaf	84	-3.2
Bama'asaf Bond A	143	1.7
Bar	334	0.3
Bar Bond A	117.5	0.4
Barad	362	0
Baranowitz	665	-6.8
Barkan	740	0
Barsol	96	-3
Bartal	225	0
Baumel Moshe	163.5	0
BaySide Bond 2	97.3	0.2
BaySide Warrant D	2200	0
Beit Shemesh	1700	0
Belmon	330	3.1
Ben Yakar Bond A	163	0
Ben Yakar Bond B	72.5	0
Ben Yakar Gal	2900	0
Berman	260	-0.5
Bezek Bond 3	122.6	-0.4
Bezek Bond 4	2120	-4.7
Bezek Warrant 3	565	-1.8
Bezek Warrant Bond 3	312	0.3
Bilu	1630	1.8
Bilu Bond A	177	0
Bisan	490	0
Bin	248	-0.4
Bokos Bond B	78	0.6
bokos gad warrant 1	48.4	25.1
Bonei Tichon	630	0
Bonjour	491	0
Boulous Brothers	181	0.7
Boulous Brothers Bond 1	256	0
Boulous GD Bond A	130.5	0.4
Brand	81.5	0
Brit	81.5	0
Brok Side	22	10
Brosh	113.5	2.7
Building Bank	1749	0
Building Resou.	3430	0
C Holdings	511	-15.1
C Holdings Bond 5	85	0
C Holdings Warrant 3	2.3	4.5
Cassares 1	4860	0
Caniel	3450	-0.3
Capital	875	0
Capital Bond A	114	0
Caprice	290	-2.4
Cargal	810	0
Carmel	550	0
Carmel	428	0
Castro	518	3
Castelera 1	380	0
CDI	182	0
Cemantecal Bond A	71.1	0.8
Cementcal	395	5.2
Centrex	141	10.2
Centre Bond 1	124	3.3
Chem	419	2.1
Chayun Computers	137.5	0
Chempel	425	10.1
Cham-Nir	480	1.5
CI Systems	164	0
Ciclab	150.5	0
Clal Computers	8530	-3.2
Clal Israel 5	488	0
Clal Retail	65883	-0.5
Cohen Bern	125	0
Cohen Dev.	205	-2.4
Cohen MM	158	0
Cold Storage 1	1800	2.2
Cold Storage 5	6800	2.2
Cold Storage and Supply Bond 1	254	0
Comp	154	-0.6
Compt Warrant 1	20	0
Compulite	182	6.1
Comsech	391	2.8
Comtrans	771	0
Contel	950	0
Contractors	16812	0
Coral Beach	646	-0.5
Credit Line	3.4	0
Credit Lines Bond A	33	0
Cyclone 1	2000	2.5
Cyclone Bond 1	251	1.2
Cyclone Bond 2	150.5	0
Dalton	1749	0
Datron Bond 1	245	0
Dalin	1.4	7.1
Dan Rent-A-Car	750	0
Dan Rent-A-Car Bond A	155.2	1.1
Danbar 1	3990	0
Danbar 5	17500	2.6
Danbar Bond A	271	3
Danbar Resources	6800	0
Danbar Resources Bond B	164	0
Danber Tech.	5570	0
Danber Technologies Bond A	146.9	0
Danel	57.8	0
Danel Bond A	64	1.2
Danel Personnel	2130	1.4
Danel Warrant 2	444	0
Dankner Bond 1	207	0
Dankner Bond 2	130.5	0
Dankner Bond 3	90.6	0.6
Dankner Warrant C	470	4.3
Darsly	561	-0.5
David	105	0
DARBAN BOND 2	97.1	0
Darban Bond A	288	0
DARBAN W2	270	0.4
Darban Warrant 3	165.5	0.3
Darea	124	0
Darton	140.5	0
Dash investment	578	2.3
Data	677	-0.4
Decision Systems	504	-1.8
Degem Systems	480	-2
Delek Drillings	8.8	8.1
Delek Oil	1455	0
Delta 1	3830	2.1
Delta 3	10600	-1
Destiny	1390	0
Digel	123	0
Dimont	1350	0
Dolev	350	-2.9
Dolev Bond A	132.9	0
Dolev warrant 1	50	0
Domcar	380	0
Domcar Bond	149.5	-1
Dor Berger	400	-12.2
Dor Chem	349	0
Dore wi	120	0
Doras	58	0
Dorl c1	93	0
Dor Engineering	455	0
Dori Engineering Bond A	133.5	0
Dovrat Bond A	135.5	0.6
Dovrat Shrem	1415	0
Dovrat Shrem Warrant 3	18.6	-2.1
DSL	1000	0
Dubek M	1.9	0
Dubek S	1.8	0
Dunitz	304	0
DYG Industries	438	0
E & M Computing	1077	-0.1
Edgar Albani	76	-0.7
Edgar Industries	199.7	0
Edgar Inv. Bond C	82.6	0
Edgar Inv. Warrant 5	21.4	-7.5
Eitar Bond A	98	0
Eini	160	0
Eitam	289	0
Eitonian	3330	0
El Bad	1800	-1.1
El Canit	598	-0.2
El Canit Bond 1	157.5	0
Elad	650	0
Elad Bond A	168.9	-0.6
Elad Bond B	135	3.3
Elad c3	67.3	2.7
Elad w5	25	96
Elbit Computers Bond B	123.5	0
Elbit Computers Warrant 2	339	-2.9
Eldan Tech.	185	7.6
Electronics Line	512	0
Elgar	4990	0
Elishav	483	1.2
Elisch Ind.	1100	11.3
Elkam	300	-1
Ella	393	0
Ella Bond A	140	0
Elran	3600	0.6
Elron Warrant 2	2457	-1.8
Emek	134.5	0
Emylia	850	0
Engal Const.	780	0
ESE	2000	4.3
Eshed Robotech	216	0
Even	398	0
Evergreen	3220	-1.2
Evros Warrant 1	1480	0
Excelence	1709	-0.5
Export Inv.	762	-2.2
Extra	103.5	0
Feldman	178.5	0
Feldman Bond A	143	0
Feldman Ind.	367	0
Feldman Warrant 3	10	0
Fertilisers 1	123	0.4
Feuchtwanger 1	10080	0.9
Feuchtwanger 5	48500	0
Fidelity	2668	0
Five J Jewelers	260	0
Five J Jewelers Bond 2	126.5	0
Formica Source	158	-0.9
Fruitcrom	338	-2.1
Gahalet	15900	-0.3
Galcom	192	0
Galran	1178	0
Gama	199	0
Gametronic	548	0
Gambit	1615	0.2
Gan Shmoel Bond A	126.7	0
Gan Shmoel Warrant 3	870	-2.8
Gan Shmuel	1665	-2.5
Ganei Hadar	405	0
Gap Development	105.5	-2.4
Gap Holdings	238	0
Gap Warrant 2	8.9	0
Gazit	578	-4.7
Gazit Bond B	147.5	0
Gazit Bond C	119.5	-0.1
Gibor Bond 1	65	0
Gibor Bond A	81.5	0
Gibor Sabrina	62	0
Gibor Sport	650	0
Gibor Warrant 2	104	0
Gilboa	84	0
Gilco	168	0
Gilbek	1850	0
Givot Olam Oil	75	0
Glob Rz	710	0
Golan	580	0
Gold	411	0
Golden House	367	0
Golden House Bond 1	245	0
Golex	163	-5
Granit Bond	143.2	0.1
Grand Bond 2	148.1	-0.9
Green Software	650	0
Greenberg	1312	-8.8
H. Electronics	80	0
H. Mor	947	2
Habas	2546	-0.5
Habas Bond 1	122.5	0.4
Hadar 1	24300	0
Hadar 5	76800	0
Hadar Ins. 1	315	1.7
Hadar Ins. 5	3660	0
Hadarim Bond1	111.7	0.1
Hadarim Warrant1	1205	-3.7
Hagal	602	0
Hagai Bond B	146	0
Hamakor	332	0
Hanal	4.8	0
Harel Bond A	484	0
Hasan Esh	700	0
Hasion	168	0
Hatehol 1	271	-5.2
Hatenol Bond A	151.6	0
Hayal	1044	-11.1
Hayal Bond1	11.1	0
Hayal Bond2	182	0
Hayal Warrant 1	80.6	-0.5
Hed Arzi Music	349	2.6
Hiron 1	10340	0
Hiron 5	40000	0
HL Service Bond 2	180	0
HL Service Bond 3	143.5	0
HL Services	1686	0
Hod	130	0
Hol	609	0
Holit	129	0
Home Center	7560	0
Hydrolics	130.5	0
IES Industries	650	0
IES Warrant 1	100	0
Ilan Gal	113.5	-0.9
Ilan Gal Bond A	143	0
ILDC Bond 6	256	0.4
ILDC Hotels	449	0
ILDC Hotels Bond 1	164	0
ILDC Hotels Warrant 2	100	0
ILDC Insurance	395	0
ILDC Insurance Bond A	130	0
Imco	983	0
Ind Bld Warrant 3	47.5	0
Ind Bldgs RI	22	-4.5
Ind.Dev.Bank C	290	0
Ind.Dev.Bank CC	2820	0
Ind.Dev.Bank CC 1	2850	0
Ind.Dev.Bank Pref	1682	-5.8
Independence Mort	79000	-2.1
Interconsma	774	0
Intergamma 1	3540	0
Intergamma 5	12700	0
Ispal	1696	0
Ispro	4050	0
Isracolor	400	0
Israel Corp. 5	134100	0.4
Israel Lighterage Bond 3	136	0
Israel Wire & Cables Bond C	171	0
Isralom	938	0.2
Isralom Bond B	266	0
Isralom Bond C	94	0.6
Iscampo	2.6	0
Isras 1	7190	0
Isras 5	29100	0
Isras Bond A	245	0
ISTA LINES	2390	-2.5
Ituy	2540	3.5
Ituy Bond 1	66.1	-1.4
Ituy Warrant 1	380	0
Ituy Warrant 2	20	0
Jafora Bond A	180	0
Jaysour	135	0
Jaysour Bond A	104.5	0
JEC Bond B	95	0
Jerusalem Mort	197	0
Jerusalem Mortgage Bond 16	160	0
Jeunesse	30.2	0
JOEL	93	0
JOEL Bond 1A	217	0
JOEL Bond 2	119.5	0
JOEL Bond A	220	0
JOEL Warrant 3	1.5	0
Kadimeni	167	0
Kadoset	306	0
kalmoe bond b	77.1	0.3
kalmoe warrant 1	68	-5.9
Kalrit	1290	0
Kalkalit Bond A	92	0
Kalkalit warrant 2	304	-0.3
Kamour	587	0
Kamour Bond G	126.5	0.4
Kamsepl	1120	-0.9
Kanal Warrant G	1	0
Kancol	30.7	0
Kancol Bond A	44	0
Kardan 1	486	0
Kardan 5	2450	0.4
Katz	126	0
Katz Bond A	64	0
Kedem Chemicals	4010	0
Kedem Chemicals Bond 2	0	0
Kenitex	341	0
Kesher	653	1.8
Kesher Bond A	145	0
Keter	610	0
Kind	29	0
Kind Bond A	61	0
King	247	0
Kinneret	209	0
Kisch Kmr	177.5	0
Kishrei Teufa	1180	0
Kital	378	0.3
Kital Bond A	180	0
Kital Bond A	110.5	0
Kill Ind. 5	6810	0
Koor Bond 5	154	-1.5
Kopel	212	0
Kopel Bond 1	242	0
La Nationale Bond A	154.4	0
La Nationale Pref	105.6	0
Lachish	3000	0
Lamont	613	0
Lapidot Oil Exploration	1	0
Lapidot Oil Explorers	72	0
Lasers	419	0.2
Lavlav	574	0.5
Lazmick Bldg	219	0
Lazmick Comm Ctrs	132	0
Lazmick Commercial Centres Bond 120		0.8
Lazmick Ind Bldgs	256	0
Lazmick Industrial Bldgs. Bond A	127.5	0.2
Leader Warrant B	10	0
Lego	472	0
Leumi R4	120.4	-2.6
Leventhal	432	1.4
Levi	724	0
Levi Bond A	136.5	0
Levi Bond B	82	1.2
Levi Warrant 2	81	0
Levinstain Bond A	97.5	0
Levinstain Warrant 2	816	0
Levinstein	1490	0
Liber	343	0
Lidan	1300	8.9
Lilshir 1	176	0
Lilshir 5	622	0
Ligad	743	0
Ligad Bond 1	147.5	-1.3
Lighterage 1	523	2.5
LINIS	240	-2
Lipman	2980	-0.7
Lipski	2400	0
Lipski Bond A	155	0
Liraz Bond A	141.5	1.1
Lodan	151.5	0
Lodzia 1	1506	-0.5
Lodzia 4	5182	0
Lohot Gali	40	0
Lohot Gali Bond 1	139	0
Lumir	5000	0
Ma'arivi	3040	-0.3
Ma'arivi Bond A	136.8	0.2
Maabarot	1289	0
Macpell	820	0
Macpell Bond A	135.2	-0.1
Macpell Bond B	114.5	0
Macpell Bond C	72	-0.7
Macpell Warrant 3	62.9	-0.2
Madi	712	-0.6
Magam	141.5	0
Magam Bond A	167	0
Magam Bond B	123.5	0
Magav	150.5	-9.9
Magma	33.3	0
Magor 1	1981	-11.1
Magor 5	9010	-8.2
Magor hldgs. Bond B	77	0
Magor hldgs. Warrant 2	580	0
Maiel	291	0
Mali	59.5	10.2
Malibu 1	1302	0
Malibu 5	6050	0
Malibu Bond B	179	0
Malta	780	0
Mam	88	0
Man Bond A	222	-0.4
Mamtur	28.7	0
Marathon	90	4.2
Marathon Insured	98.6	-0.4
Mario Laznick Constr. Bond 1	163	0
Mario Laznick Constr. Bond 2	142	0.4
Maritime Bank	1531	0
Maritime Bank Bond A	196.5	0
Maritime Bank Bond B	137	0
Matchev	849	4.6
Mashbir	651	-0.3
Mashov	398	1
Mashov	163	-0.3
Matam	1334	0
Matav Warrant 1	1011	-11.4
Maxima 1	333	0
Maxima 5	1444	0
Mazpak	620	0
Med. Hotels	37	0
Mediachnica	7.25	-0.8
Mediachnica Bond A	130.8	0
Mediachnica Bond B	75	0
Mediachnica Warrant 2	179	0
Mediterraneen Hotels Bond A	55	0
Megason	57.5	0
Meimad	360	0
Mer Ezra	1984	-1.8
Meir Ezra Bond B	247	0
Melabi	295	0
Mellseuron Bond B	87	0.3
Mellseuron Warrant 3	40.5	-1.2
Mendelson	223	0
Menofim	37.8	0
Menorah Ins. 5	8630	0
Mercazit	925	-0.5
Merhav	209	4.8
Meyvani	393	0
Middle East Tube	370	0
Middle East Tube Bond A	104.9	0
Middle East Tube Warrant 2	24	0
Milimor Bond A	138	-4.1
Millomar Bond B	76	2.5
Millomar Warrant 2	160	0
Mimsar	105	0
Mini Line	523	0
Minrav	12650	0
Mirage	220	0
Mirage Bond A	126	0
Mirage Warrant 1	14	-14.3
Miromit	60	0
Mishmasi	19	0
Mishmasi Bond B	58	0
Mishor Bond 2	139.5	0.7
Mishor Hahof	360	-1.4
Mitarani	159.5	0
Mivtach Shamir	2520	-2.8
Mivtach Shamir	1257	7.7
Mizrahi	1005	-0.5
Mizrahi warrant 1	430	-2.6
Mizrahi warrant 2	247	-1.5
MM Engineering	99	0
MM Engineering Bond A	97	0
Modgal	670	0
Modi'in	1	0
Mofet	216	1.9
Mofet Convertible Bond AAA	308	5.8
Molets	698	0
More Plastic Ind.	374	1.1
Moshkovitz	159.8	0
MTI Computers	475	0
Mul-T-Lock	805	0
Mula Sanlar	223	0
Nachshon Fund	51.7	3.3
Naphtha	33	0
Naphtha Oil Exp.	20.9	0
Natour	722	-1.1
NATSVA BOND A	96.6	0
Navigator	371	0
Navigator Property	745	0.3
Nechushtan Bond B	71.7	0.3
Nechushtan Prop.	198.6	-5.1
Nechushtan Properties Bond A	127.2	1.3
Nechushtan Warrant 1	24	0
Negev Ceramics	162	4.9
Nehushtan 1	593	0
Nehushtan 5	2580	0
Neot Aviv	6810	0
Nesuia	448	-0.9
Neve Arbel	84	0
Nevlim Hotels	360	0
Nevtot	709	-1.6
Nia	238	0
Nikuv	1110	-1.8
Nisco	2850	-0.3
Nissan	240	4.3
NMC	367	0
Noga	1500	-3.3
Noga Insorans	113.1	-7.9
Nordan	10.9	0
Nordan Tech.	363	-0.5
Norlotk	807	-0.5
Norlotk Bond A	141	-0.7
Nur	63	0
NVP	941	0
Oceana	282	0
Ocf Bond A	178.6	0
Ocf Bond C	82.6	-0.1
Ocf Warrant 2	696	-4.2
Octova	332	0
Ofek	212	0.5
Oler Pro	6200	0
Ofec	1090	0
Ogden	61	0
Ohalav	524	0
Oil Fields	1.2	0
Ola-Dor	290	0
Omer	273	0
Omrotech	196	0
Ophir	388	-3.1
Oppenheimor	68	0
Optema	139	-1.1
Orasys	3157	0
Orazet	510	0
Orazet Bond A	158.6	0
Orda	4050	0
Orda Bond 1	189	0
Orav	692	0
Oref	118	0
Orlda	311	-5.1
Orlda Bond A	84	0.5
Orlda Warrant 2	42	0
Ormat Industries Bond D	124.5	0
Ormat Industries Warrant 5	152	-11.2
Ortal	370	0
Ocar Hashiton	25500	0
Oz	235	+10.2
Oz arida	416	0
Packer Steel	3800	-0.3
Pallough	606	0
PAM	583	0.5
Pama	680	0
Pamas	2580	-1.5
Pan Dor	250	-0.4
Pardes	764	-0.5
Pardes Bond A	69	0
Passport	1940	0
Paz Chem	543	0
PCB	1800	-3.1
Pdan Investment	53	0
Perey	107.2	0
Pencase	740	0.3
Phoenix Ins. 5	20400	0
Pica Plast	360	-4.2
Pinros	120.5	-5.1
Pinros Bond A	138	0
Pilat	365	0
Plason bond a	97.5	0
Plason warrant 1	480	0
Plasson	3820	2
Plasto Sac	810	-4.6
Plasto Sheck Bond A	83	3.6
Plasto Sheck Warrant 2	97	0
Poalim Inv. Bond B	90	0
Poalim Inv Warrant 3	2650	0
Poalim Investmentis Bond A	129.6	0
Poalim Warrant 3	522	-0.6
Point of Sale	2500	0
Polak	342	0
Polgat A	225	-4.7
Polgat B 4	577	3.6
Polgat Bond B	0	0
Polygon	206	0
Polygon Bond 2	213	0
Poraz	280	1.5
Port	82	0
Poseidon	113.6	-0.1
Pri Haemek	20.9	0
Pri Haemek Bond A	35.9	-0.8
Pritzker	188	0
Pritzker Bond A	136.5	0
Profit	310	0
Profit Bond A	124	0
Python	480	0
Quality Cap Mkts	485	-0.6
Rabanax	210	0
Ram Zur	80.9	0
Ramgor 1	281	0
Ramgor 4	702	0
Rapak	2490	-2.1
Rapak Bond A	148.2	0
Rassco	1000	-2
Retso	1	0
Rav Car	121	0
Ravad	138.5	0
RDC	1116	0
RDC Bond A	136.1	0
Red Sea Hotels	690	0

TASE mixed ahead of CPI release

Tel Aviv

Israeli stocks were mixed, with Dead Sea Works and Teva Pharmaceuticals rising, amid expectations a decline in consumer prices will prompt the Bank of Israel to cut interest rates for the seventh time this year.

After the end of the trading day the Central Bureau of Statistics announced that the consumer price index surprisingly rose 0.4 percent in June, well above analysts expectations.

The Maof Index of Israel's 24 largest companies closed down 0.02% at 324.78.

"Everyone expects interest rates to come down," said Doron Tsur, director of research at Sahar Securities. "It would be a big surprise if they didn't."

Teva, Israel's largest drugmaker, led the gainers, rising 2.54% to NIS 125.30. Dead Sea Works, a chemicals producer, rose 1.95% to NIS 8.36.

Dead Sea Bromine, a maker of flame-retardant chemicals, rose 2.27% to NIS 31.6.

Koor Industries, Israel's largest company by sales, fell the most, dropping 2.21% to NIS 442.0. Clal Insurance Enterprise Holdings Ltd., Israel's second-largest insurer, fell 2.02% to NIS 33.9.

Makhteshim Agan Industries fell 0.57% to NIS 10.39. Makhteshim, which makes chemicals used in crop herbicide, has fallen in recent days amid speculation the maker of crop-protection chemicals would issue a profit warning for the second quarter.

Matav Cable Systems Media, a cable television provider, fell 2.7% to NIS 46.2, erasing most of Tuesday's 4.2 percent rise. Matav had risen on speculation the cable television provider will merge with other Israeli cable companies.

The decline came after the Dankner family said it rejected an offer to sell its 37% stake in Matav to Tevel and Golden Channels, *Yediot Aharonot* reported, citing Matav Chief Executive Robert Avi-Tal.

Europe

UK stocks rose, with the benchmark index notching its 21st closing high, as optimism for unchanged interest rates boosted banks. Telecommunications companies gained on hopes for enhanced profit and mergers.

The FTSE 100 Index rose 51.3 points to 6151.5, having earlier reached as high as 6179.8. Lloyds TSB Group led gains, adding nearly 6 points to the index.

Banks rose amid expectations inflation is tame enough for stable rates, spurring consumer and company borrowing. Lloyds gained 21.5p to 935.5, Halifax Plc rose 25.5p to 820.5 and Abbey National Plc gained 33p to 1,174.

"The consensus view must be that there won't be another rate rise," said Tom Eyre, an investment manager at BWD Rensburg Ltd. in Leeds, which has 1.8 billion pounds ($2.95 billion) in assets. Average earnings figures are "a real fly in the ointment, the only statistic that is reading badly."

Average earnings unexpectedly grew 5.4% in April, up from a revised 5.3% in March. Economists had forecast earnings would grow 5.2% in April.

Last week, the central bank left its benchmark lending rate unchanged at 7.50%.

Eyre said he might buy property companies that have been "oversold," such as Land Securities Plc, though banks and telecoms are "staggeringly strong." British Telecommunications Plc, the U.K.'s No. 1 telephone company, rose 14p to 817 after shareholders approved its plan to buy back up to 10% of its own stock, valued at about 5.3 billion pounds at today's share price, passing on to shareholders the cash it expects to receive for its 20% stake in MCI Communications Corp.

Asia

Japanese stocks rose for a third day, led by top global exporters, after US and European stock markets rallied to records.

"The market was firmer thanks to the strong performance overseas," said David Turner, a sales trader at Jardine Fleming Securities (Asia) Ltd.'s international institutions department.

"Added to that is feeling that any change in the premiership will expedite the fiscal policies necessary to turn the economy around." The benchmark Nikkei 225 stock index rose 125.23 points, or 0.76%, to 16,614.14. The broader Topix index of all companies listed on the first section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange gained 8.66 points, or 0.68%, to 1275.31.

Sony surged 370 points to a record 12,900. Bridgestone added 120 yen to 3,430. Toshiba Corp. climbed 21 yen to 585 as overseas investors dipped into Japanese equities.

"If investors are shifting assets back into Japan they may gravitate toward quality names rather than [speculative] names," said Alex Muromcew, international portfolio manager at Nicholas Applegate Capital Management, which handles $300 million in Japanese equities. "It's rational, prudent investing."

Nikkei 225 index futures for September delivery traded in Osaka added 70 points to 16,520; those in Singapore climbed 100 points to 16,575.

Consumer finance companies, which also have a high percentage of foreign ownership, climbed on expectation any significant tax cuts carried out by the new administration will help consumer sentiment and spending.

The Topix index of finance and credit card companies climbed 2.5%. (Bloomberg)

Wall Street

US stocks ended on a mixed note yesterday as investors cashed in profits from the rally in blue chips, but the technology-laced Nasdaq market roared ahead to its sixth record close in a row.

Based on early, unofficial data, the Dow Jones industrial average ended down 11.07 points, or 0.12 percent, at 9,234.47, a day after setting a record close.

In the broad market, declining issues led advances by a thin margin on heavy volume of 727 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

The Nasdaq composite index gained 26.13 points, or 1.3%, to 1,994.54.

The blue-chip Dow ended lower despite a surge in component Eastman Kodak Co. after the film and imaging product company posted surprisingly strong second-quarter earnings. Kodak was up 9-1/8 at 82-7/8.

Caterpillar Inc., another Dow component, tumbled 4-1/4 to 52 after its earnings fell short of Wall Street expectations.

Big-name technology stocks continued to lead Nasdaq to new records.

Intel Corp. gained 3-9/16 to 84-1/4 as investors were calmed by its earnings announcement late Tuesday and the company's comments on its outlook.

In individual issues, WorldCom Inc. rose 2 to 54-3/4 and MCI Communications Corp. gained 2-11/16 to 67 after the US Justice Department gave its conditional approval to the merger of the two companies. (Reuters)

Yen falls as Japanese candidate seen slow on reform

The dollar rose for the first time in three days against the yen amid speculation Keizo Obuchi, the leading candidate to become Japan's prime minister, won't step up efforts to end the country's recession.

If elected by the ruling Liberal Democrats, Obuchi would replace Ryutaro Hashimoto who resigned this week. Obuchi has shown scant enthusiasm for large tax cuts or quicker action to shore up the ailing banking system, moves that would also boost the yen.

"There's concern Obuchi will opt for the old, failed pump-priming measures," said Stephen Jonathan, head of currency sales at Merrill Lynch & Co. "The more he's in the ascendancy, the higher the dollar goes." He said the dollar could rise to the mid-140s in the next two months.

The dollar rose as high as 141.40 yen from 140 Tuesday in New York, and was recently at 140.53. It was little changed at 1.8022 marks from 1.8025 marks as Russia's parliament debated laws to raise tax collection and revive the economy, setting investors at ease about Germany, Russia's biggest creditor.

The dollar gave up some gains against the yen in early New York trading amid speculation the German central bank sold dollars. A Bundesbank representative in New York said the bank did not intervene in the currency market.

Obuchi may announce his candidacy as early as today, LDP officials said. Obuchi heads the largest faction within the party, giving him the lead in the race for the top post.

Investors aren't convinced Obuchi, who has never held an economic post in Japan's cabinet, is the right person to pull Japan out of its worst recession since World War II.

"Japan needs financial deregulation, banking sector reform, bad loan write-offs and further fiscal stimulus before we can be sure the trend in the exchange rate has changed," said Stephen Inkley, who helps Daiwa International Capital Management manage $2 billion in fixed-income assets. He recently sold yen in expectation it will weaken to 146 per dollar in three months.

Russia's lower house of parliament, the Duma, began debating legislation to increase revenue and narrow the budget deficit to meet conditions for $22.6 billion in international loans.

Hope that the Duma will pass the laws is taking some of the pressure off the mark, said Merrill's Jonathan. Many traders sold marks in recent weeks on concern Russia wouldn't get the loans it needs to pay back debt and defend its currency.

A worsening of Russia's economic malaise could sour global investors on Germany, which is also Russia's biggest trading partner. (Bloomberg)

Oil rises on inventory drop

Precious metals

Precious Metals Gold for August delivery was little changed from Tuesday's one-week high, rising as much as $1 to $295 an ounce on the Comex division of the New York Mercantile Exchange as the yen was little changed against the dollar. A stronger Japanese currency makes dollar-priced metals like gold less expensive to buyers paying in yen. Gold has been closely linked to the yen since June, when the yen weakened to an eight-year low, prompting speculation gold consumption would decrease throughout Asia. Traders have boosted the yen since Monday, when Japanese Prime Minister Ruyatoro Hashimoto resigned after his ruling party had a poor showing in parliamentary elections, in the belief a new government will adopt economic reforms. Japan is the world's seventh-largest gold consumer.

Energy

Oil Crude oil rose as much as 2.6 percent after the American Petroleum Institute's weekly oil inventory report showed a larger-than-expected drop in US crude oil stockpiles and indicated demand for crude oil is at a 19-year high. If strong demand continues, it could reduce supply just as oil producers elsewhere are cutting output. London crude oil gained as much as 34 cents to $13.36 a barrel.

Others

Nickel fell almost 2 percent after surging Tuesday amid persistent concern there is a surplus of the base metal. Sagging demand in much of Asia where consumption of stainless steel, the metal's main use, is falling and excess world supply has kept prices at their lowest in almost five years. The three-month nickel forward contract on the London Metal Exchange fell as much as $70, or 1.6 percent, to $4,300 a metric ton. Cocoa for September delivery fell as rains earlier this week eased concern that the wet season in Ivory Coast would end early and cut yields. Ivory Coast cocoa-growing regions were slightly drier than normal in the first 10 days of July, analysts said. Cocoa for September delivery slipped 6 pounds ($9.81) to 1,063 pounds a metric ton on the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange. (Bloomberg)

US bonds rise after 3-day slide as dollar gains

US bonds rose, snapping a three-day slide, as the dollar rebounded against the yen and traders speculated that economic reforms in Japan will take time, keeping demand strong for safe assets such as Treasuries.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond rose 7/32, or $2.19 per $1,000 bond, to 106, nudging the yield down 2 basis points to 5.70%. The two-year note yield fell 2 basis points to 5.43%.

Bonds were buoyed as the US currency rose for the first time in three days against the Japanese currency, climbing to as high as 141.40 yen from 140 yen Tuesday on expectations that reforms in Japan won't come too quickly, even with new leadership.

A stronger dollar makes US assets more attractive to bond investors who convert interest and principal proceeds into other currencies.

"The dollar's trading a little better," and that's giving a lift to bonds, said Scott Graham, co-head of government bond trading at Prudential Securities Inc. "Japan is still a long way from rectifying its problems."

Bonds also got a lift after reports showing an unexpected drop in business inventories in May and a bigger-than-expected 0.5% drop in import prices, providing more evidence of slowing growth and tame inflation, traders said.

Benchmark 30-year bond yields have climbed some 14 basis points since earlier this month amid speculation a new Japanese prime minister will take steps to stimulate the ailing Japanese economy and reform its banking system. Ryutaro Hashimoto resigned as prime minister Monday after his party suffered big losses in weekend elections.

The yield on 30-year bonds fell to 5.56% — the lowest since the government began selling that maturity regularly in 1977 — on July 6 as investors sought Treasuries as a safe haven from tumbling Asian markets and financial turmoil in the Pacific rim and Russia.

Now, though, some investors are concerned US yields will rise further in coming months, as the Japanese and other Asian economies stabilize and Russian problems subside, prompting a reversal of the flight into safer US bonds.

"At this point, I don't think bonds can go too far to the upside," said Rob McCool, trader at First Chicago Capital Markets Inc. "There was a significant premium put into Treasury rates from the flight to quality, and at this point some of that's coming out."

Some investors are concerned that, with stability returning overseas, investors will turn their attention to the robust US economy, which grew at a 5.4% pace in the first three months of the year. While the Federal Reserve hasn't changed its target for bank lending rates since March 1997, some investors say a rate increase is likely without clear signs that the economy is losing steam.

"If the flight-to-quality bid disappears, people will look closer to home and see little sign the domestic economy is slowing," said Colin Harte, who oversees about $14 billion of bonds at Gartmore Investment Management. That would "turn attention to the possibility of a rate rise there, and yields could rise sharply." (Bloomberg)

STOCKS



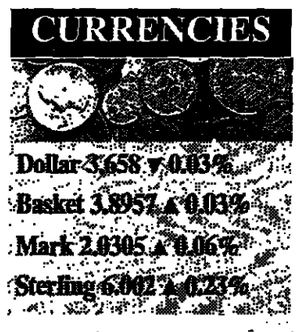
Maof 324.78 ▼ 0.02%

Dow Jones 9234 ▼ 0.12%

FTSE 6151.5 ▲ 0.84%

Nikkei 16614.14 ▲ 0.76%

CURRENCIES



Dollar 3.658 ▼ 0.03%

Basket 3.8957 ▲ 0.03%

Mark 2.0305 ▲ 0.06%

Sterling 0.602 ▲ 0.23%

BONDS



US 30-year T-bill yield

5.7 ▼ 0.02

COMMODITIES



Gold $293.05 ▼ 0.1%

Crude Oil $13.1 ▲ 0.08%

CRB 209.84 ▼ 0.26%

	LAST	CHANGE
Texaco	55.25	-0.1875
Tenet Health	29.375	+0.0625
Texaforce	27.375	+1.375
Tesoro Pet	19.4375	-0.25
Texaco	58.3125	+0.6875
Texas Instrmnts	82.25	+3.875
Texas Utilities	42.0625	+0.0625
Textron	73.5	-0.125
Thiokol		
Thomas & Betts	46.875	-0.25
ThreeCom	29.5625	+0.875
Time Warner	93.125	+1.875
Times-Mirror		-0.9375
Timken	62	+0.8125
Torchmark	29.8125	-0.3125
Tosco Corp	44.875	-0.125
Toys R Us	30.5	+1.25
Transamerica	24.25	-1.1875
Transco Energy	118.75	+0.1875
Travellers Grp	67.25	-0.6875
Tribune	70.375	-0.4375
Triton Energy	73.5	-2.75
TWA	28.875	-0.3125
Tyco Intl Ltd	10.375	-0.375
Tyler	66.8125	+0.125
	9.625	
UAL Corp	88.375	-4.75
USG Corp	57.0625	+0.6875
UST Inc	27.6875	-1.25
USX Marathon	35.0625	+0.3125
USX-US Steel	31	-0.25
Ultramar Diam	29.5	-0.375
Unicom Corp	35.875	-0.0625
Unilever PLC	44.1875	-0.1875
Unilever NV	78.8125	-1.3125
Union Camp	43.6875	-1.625
Union Carbide	52.0625	-1.125
Union Pacific	42.9375	+0.3125
Unisys Corp	28.5625	+1.5
USAIR Group	75.8125	-3.0625
USFAG Corp		
US Home	43.875	+0.1875
US Surgical	48.4375	-0.4375
US Trust	80.5	+2.5
US West	51.125	-0.0625
United Tech	96.125	+0.8875
Unocal Corp	35.625	+0.625
VF Corp	48.6875	-1.5625
VWRX Pharmaceut	1.09375	-0.03125
Valero Energy	29.4375	-0.3125
Varian Assoc	38.375	+0.375
Viacom Inc	82.0625	-1.5625
Vishay	15.9375	+0.25
Vulcan Materials	116	+3
Wachovia	86.1875	-0.5625
Walgreen	46.1875	-0.0625
Wal-Mart Stores	65.875	-0.625
Warner-Lambert	78.1875	-0.5625
Wash Gas Light	25.375	-0.0625
Washington Mutu	43.75	-1.875
Washington Post	586.938	-3.0625
Waste Mgment Inc	39.875	+0
Watkins-Johnson	24.8125	+1.4375
Wells Markets	36.0625	-0.1875
Wells Fargo	381	-11.4375
Wendy's Intl	22.0625	+0.0625
Westvaco	26.75	-0.5625
Weyerhaeuser	44.8125	-0.9375
Whirlpool	63.9375	-5.625
Whittman	23.0625	+1
Williams Co	36.125	+0.8125
Winn Dixie Stos	46.375	-1.0625
Woolworth	17.9375	+1
World Comm	54.75	+2
Worthington Ind	14.5	+0
Wrigley	98.625	-0.625
Xerox	110.125	+2.3125
Yellow Freight	17.5	-0.0625
Zenith Electron		
Zero Co	30.625	-0.0625

	LAST	CHANGE
Bayer	52.88	+0.13
Daimler-Benz	176.5	+0.5
Lufthansa	54.8	+0.55
Mannesmann	799	+4.1
Metallgesellschaft	41.4	-1.2
Volkswagon	297.7	-1.8

SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 15-JUL-98)

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES

	Last	Change
Sal (Basket) (1)	3.8957	0
U.S. Dollar (1)	3.658	0
British Pound (1)	6.0002	0
Deutsch Mark (1)	2.0305	0
French Franc (1)	0.6057	0
Japanese Yen (100)	2.5	0
Swiss Franc (1)	2.4093	0
Canadian Dollar (1)	2.4689	0
Italian Lira (1000)	2.059	0
Jordanian Dinar (1)	5.1395	0

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
DJ Industrials	9234.47	-11.07
DJ Transport	3548.21	-70.52
DJ Utils	200.67	-0.12
DJ Comp	2941.12	-18.15
NYSE Industr	730.08	-1.13
NYSE Transport	513.48	-7.92
NYSE Comp	595.49	-2.12
S&P 100	575.89	-0.55
S&P Spot Index	1174.81	-2.77

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

	Last	Change
FTSE 100	6151.5	+51.3
Tokyo Nikkei	16614.1	+125.2
Singapore all-share index	300.48	-5.85
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index	8466.22	+277.29
Israel Index	257.14	0
Paris CAC 40	4344.9	0
DAX	6095.28	+75.8
Madrid	937.19	+4.82
Sydney	2773.9	+79.7
Milan	1571.46	+18.54

DOLLAR CROSSRATES (US)

	Last	Change
Pound: spot	1.6355	+0.002
Sep.future (CME)	1.6304	+0.0018
D-mark: spot	1.799	-0.0034
Sep.future (CME)	0.5579	+0.0015
S-franc: spot	1.5107	-0.0103
Sep.future (CME)	0.6658	+0.0045
Yen: spot	140.52	+0.31
Sep.future (CME)	0.007179	-2.6e-005
CanDlr: spot	1.4887	+0.0076
Sep.future (CME)	0.6732	-0.0036
AusDlr: spot	0.6285	+0.0003
Sep.future (CME)	0.6251	+0.0009
F-franc: spot	6.0295	-0.017
It Lira: spot	1773	-5
Ntg: spot	9.027	-0.0067
AuStrlg: spot	12.9728	+0.0093
Rand: spot	6.115	+0.11
ECU: spot	1.0996	+0.0019

US COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Jul) (CSC)	1517	-26
Coffee (Jul) (CEC)	109	-1.9
Wheat (Jul) (CBOT)	280.5	-1.75
Soybean (Jul) (CBOT)	641.25	-15
Sugar (Oct) (CEC)	9.66	-0.01
Orange juice (Jul)(CEC)		
Crude Oil (Aug)(NYMEX)	14.87	+0.32
Brent Stp.future	122.16	+0.02
S and P Sep.future	1183.7	-2.1

LONDON COMMODITIES

	Last	Change
Cocoa (Jul) (LCE)	1049	+9
Coffee (Jul) (LCE)	1524	-1
Brent crude oil (Sep)(IPE)	13.33	0

SPOT MARKET METALS (US)

	Last	Change
Silver: spot	5.35	+0.03

NEW YORK METAL FUTURES

	Last	Change
Gold (Aug)	294.5	+0.5
Silver (Jul)	5.307	+0.018
Platinum (Jul)	392.3	+3.4
Palladium (Sep)	295.05	+7.8
High-grade copper (Jul)	0.78	+0.0165

LONDON METAL FIXES

	Last	Change
Gold AM fix	292.8	+0.5
Gold PM fix	293.35	+0
Silver fix	5.33	+0

Month in parentheses signals contract exp. date
(Spot market listings are from approximately 23:30 Israel time. All others are closing quotes.)
SOURCE: S&P COMSTOCK (DATE 15-JUL-98)

LONDON

Allied Domecq	558	-1.5
BAT Inds	711.5	+18
BT	317	+14.5
BTR	165.5	-2.5
Barclays	1005	-2
Bass	1094	-8
Boots	1050	+15
British Airways	679	-10
Comm Union plc	1196	+31
Diageo	778.5	+6
General Electric	547	+0
Glaxo	1858	-8
Halifax	824	+28
HSBC (75p shs)	1595	+15
ICI	983	-1
Land Securities	911	-9.5
Lloyds Bank	932.5	+20.5
Marks & Spencer	544	-9.5
NatWest Bank	1100	+11
Prudential	892	+15
Reuters	644	-16.5
Sainsbury	548	+4.5
Shell Transport	418	+6.25
Tyco Intl	3850	+200
Unilever	573	-2
Zeneca	2504	-5

PARIS

Accor	1700	+47
Air Liquide	992	-16
Alcatel Alsthom	1411	+54
Euro Disney	11.4	-0.2
Moulinex	14500	0
Paribas	65400	0
Pernod Ricard	40600	0
Peugeot	137000	0
Saint Gobain	1150	+54

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Contact : Elan Levi

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates)

Currency (deposit for:)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar ($250,000)	4.770	4.800	5.090
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.550	5.540	5.820
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.180	2.280	2.700
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.060	0.190	0.560
Yen (10 million yen)	—	—	—

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (15.7.98)

	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Buy	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS Sell	BANKNOTES Buy	BANKNOTES Sell	Rep. Rates**
Currency basket	3.8601	3.8224	—	—	3.8957
U.S. dollar	3.6243	3.6828	3.56	3.74	3.6580
German mark	2.0148	2.0473	1.98	2.08	2.0305
Pound sterling	5.9304	6.0261	5.82	6.11	6.0002
French franc	0.6011	0.6108	0.59	0.62	0.6057
Japanese yen (100)	2.5744	2.6160	2.53	2.66	2.6008
Dutch florin	1.7874	1.8163	1.75	1.85	1.8011
Swiss franc	2.3929	2.4315	2.35	2.47	2.4093
Swedish krona	0.4524	0.4597	0.44	0.47	0.4555
Norwegian krone	0.4752	0.4829	0.48	0.49	0.4790
Danish krone	0.5289	0.5375	0.51	0.55	0.5330
Finnish mark	0.4453	0.6735	0.65	0.69	0.6680
Canadian dollar	2.4453	2.4848	2.40	2.52	2.4689
Australian dollar	2.2563	2.2927	2.21	2.33	2.2828
S. African rand	0.5861	0.6058	0.54	0.61	0.5987
Belgian franc (10)	0.9789	0.9927	0.96	1.01	0.9847
Austrian schilling (10)	2.8852	2.9115	2.81	2.96	2.8868
Italian lira (1000)	2.0434	2.0764	2.00	2.11	2.0590
Jordanian dinar	5.1118	5.1943	5.04	5.39	5.1395
Egyptian pound	1.0300	1.1200	1.03	1.12	1.0791
ECU	3.9807	4.0450	—	—	4.0130
Irish punt	5.0714	5.1532	4.98	5.23	5.1091
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3749	2.4133	2.33	2.45	2.3929

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Upper Nazareth: New Pharm, Lev Ha'ir Mall, 657-0468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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Winds likely to pose problems at British Open

SOUTHPORT (AP) – When Royal Birkdale last played host to the British Open, Ian Baker-Finch was at the top of his game and par was a high score on a calm weekend that featured the course at its most benign.

Leap ahead seven years and a lot has changed on the rolling hills and sand dunes hugging the coast of the Irish Sea. And not all of it involves Baker-Finch, whose game went into such a funk after he won here in 1991 that he will spend this British Open in a broadcasting booth.

The greens are new, the rough a little deeper and the fairways a bit narrower. But it is the wind that has howled here all week that has players shaking their heads in disbelief and talking about US Open-type scores in the third major of the year.

"If it stays like this, 290 (10-over-par) would be real good," US Open runner-up Payne Stewart said. "When you come over here you expect this kind of weather, but for the last few years we have had very nice weather."

Not so far this year, as the weather has been so bad in practice rounds that players were running out of balls after the wind carried shot after shot into the knee-deep meadow rye grass that sways in the breeze between fairways.

Tom Lehman lost six balls on the ninth hole alone, and US Open champion Lee Janzen didn't even begin to look for some of his wayward shots.

Just when the world's best players were getting over conditions at the Olympic Club, where Janzen shot even par to win, Royal Birkdale served notice that it won't be the pushover it was in 1991 when Baker-Finch shot 64-66 the last two days to win his only major.

The wind didn't blow that year, however, as it has during the blustery practice rounds as players have struggled to remain steady over the ball while being peppered at times by rain.

Conditions were so bad at times that Lehman hit driver-driver and couldn't reach the 421-yard second hole. Some players couldn't hit the ball far enough into the wind to reach the fairway on the 480-yard, par-4 sixth.

When the wind was at its worst Monday, Tiger Woods could hit a 3-iron only 152 yards on the par-3 seventh hole.

Of course, Woods then nearly reached the green with his tee shot on the downwind 457-yard 8th hole after being urged by playing partner Mark O'Meara to hit it over the dogleg to within a few yards of the green.

British oddsmakers have made Woods and Lee Westwood co-favorites to win the Claret Jug when the 127th Open championship begins today.

It is the first time Woods has not been a sole favorite in any tournament he entered since winning the Masters last year.

Westwood is now the hotter golfer after winning for the seventh time on four continents in the last seven months last week at the Loch Lomond in Scotland.

Westwood, the 25-year-old who has inherited the mantle of Britain's best player from Nick Faldo, hits the ball low and straight, an advantage in any windy conditions. He also has a deft touch around the greens.

Last year's winner, Justin Leonard, is among the usual list of contenders, as is Nick Price, Ernie Els and Lehman. Adding a little flavor to the field are a pair of hot amateurs in US Amateur champion Matt Kuchar and 18-year-old Spanish standout Sergio Garcia.

Gary Player, appearing in his 43rd consecutive Open, is in the field of 156, but the biggest news is the absence of Jack Nicklaus, who at the age of 58 is ending his incredible streak of 146 consecutive majors.

Monty happy on the road

Colin Montgomerie is happy not to have play at home – a pressure that destroyed his chances last year.

At Scotland's Royal Troon, Montgomerie soared to a first-round 76, all but ending his chance of victory.

At least he improved enough, with a 69, to make the halfway cut, something he had failed to do in four of the previous five British Opens. He finished joint 24th.

"It is human nature to feel a little more pressure at your own course," the World No. 5 said yesterday.

BASEBALL

Continued from Page 20

Cubs 7, Pirates 4

Glenallen Hill had three hits and two RBIs, including one of four consecutive run-scoring singles in a six-run sixth inning for visiting Chicago.

Sammy Sosa failed to homer for the fourth consecutive game – he has 35 homers in 93 games – but contributed an RBI single among the Cubs' 11 hits.

Reds 7, Cardinals 4

Eddie Taubensee's three-run homer snapped a tie in the seventh inning as visiting Cincinnati won its ninth straight game.

The streak, which follows an 11-game losing streak, is the Reds' longest since they also won nine straight from May 22-31, 1995.

Cardinals slugger Mark McGwire, who leads the majors with 40 home runs, did not start for the first time since June 4 – when he was out with back spasms. McGwire pinch hit with one on and two out in the ninth, and grounded out to third to end the game.

Phillies 4, Brewers 2

Scott Rolen's two-run double off Jeff Juden in the top of the eighth broke up a scoreless game.

Juden (7-8) surrendered back-to-back singles to Doug Glanville and Gregg Jefferies to start the eighth before Rolen sent a 1-2 slider into the gap in left-center.

Expos 2, Marlins 1

Dustin Hermanson allowed five hits in eight innings and overcame some shaky Montreal defense as the visitors snapped Florida's season-high winning streak at four.

Padres 8, Rockies 7

Wally Joyner homered and drove in four runs as visiting San Diego ended Colorado's season-high four-game winning streak.

Astros 4, Diamondbacks 2

Shane Reynolds became the NL's fourth 12-game winner, picking up his fifth victory in a row as visiting Houston snapped a four-game losing streak.

Dodgers 2, Giants 1

Robb Nen's wild pitch scored Raul Mondesi with two outs in the bottom of the ninth inning.

Nen's 1-0 pitch to rookie Adrian Beltre with the bases loaded was in the dirt and got by catcher Brian Johnson, allowing Mondesi to score standing up.

American League

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	66	21	.759	—
Boston	53	38	.582	15
Toronto	47	47	.500	22½
Baltimore	44	50	.468	25½
Tampa Bay	35	57	.380	33½
Central Division				
Cleveland	53	38	.582	—
Minnesota	42	50	.457	11½
Kansas City	41	51	.446	12½
Chicago	39	53	.424	14½
Detroit	38	52	.422	14½
West Division				
Anaheim	51	41	.554	—
Texas	51	42	.548	½
Oakland	44	48	.478	7
Seattle	41	53	.436	11

National League

East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	61	32	.656	—
New York	46	42	.523	12½
Philadelphia	47	43	.522	12½
Montreal	37	55	.402	23½
Florida	36	57	.387	25
Central Division				
Houston	55	38	.591	—
Chicago	51	42	.548	4
Milwaukee	46	45	.505	8
Cincinnati	44	50	.468	11½
St. Louis	43	49	.467	11½
Pittsburgh	41	52	.441	14
West Division				
San Diego	60	34	.638	—
San Francisco	52	42	.553	8
Los Angeles	47	46	.505	12½
Colorado	41	53	.436	19
Arizona	31	62	.333	28½

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Boston 110 010 100–4 8 0
Tampa Bay 000 013 001–5 11 2
Saberhagen, Corsi (6), Mahay (8), C.Reyes (9) and Hatteberg; Rekar, Mecir (7), A.Lopez (8) and D'Felice. W–A.Lopez, 5-2. L–Mahay, 1-1. HR–Tampa Bay, Sorrento (13).

Kansas City 001 010 100–3 10 0
Detroit 000 401 30x–8 12 1
Belcher, Whisenant (7), Pittsley (8) and Fasano; J.Thompson, M.Anderson (7), Crow (8) and J.Oliver. W–J.Thompson, 8-8. L–Belcher, 8-8. HRs–Detroit, To.Clark (20), L.Gonzalez (12), D.Cruz (3).

Anaheim 000 000 020–2 8 3
Oakland 320 001 00x–6 9 0
Olivares, Cadaret (4), P.Harris (5), DeLucia (7), Watson (8) and Nevin; Rogers, T.J.Mathews (7), Groom (8), Worrell (8), Mohler (9) and Hinch. W–Rogers, 9-3. L–Olivares, 5-6.

New York 011 001 121–7 12 0
Cleveland 100 000 000–1 6 0
Pettitte and Girardi; Burba, Plunk (8), Morman (9), Ogea (9) and S.Alomar. W–Pettitte, 12-6. L–Burba, 10-7. HR–New York, Knoblauch (6).

Toronto 010 030 001–5 7 2
Baltimore 610 010 30x–11 14 0
W.Williams, Person (6), Quantrill (8) and Fletcher; KL.Brown (8); Mussina and Holles. W–Mussina, 7-5. L–W.Williams, 8-4. HRs–Baltimore, R.Palmeiro (27), Surhoff (14), Carter (11), Holles (5).

Minnesota 001 011 002–5 12 1
Chicago 012 100 004–8 11 0
Tewksbury, Morgan (5), Trombley (8), Agullera (9) and Steinbach; Sirotka, Howry (8), Karchner (9), Foulke (9) and Kreuter. W–Foulke, 2-1. L–Agullera, 3-6. HRs–Minnesota, Lawton (12), Meares (6). Chicago, F.Thomas (15), Belle (25).

Texas 000 000 300–3 6 2
Seattle 103 000 20x–6 11 0
Burkett, Belles (7), D.Patterson (7) and I.Rodriguez; Fassero, Timlin (9) and D.Wilson. W–Fassero, 8-5. L–Burkett, 5-10. Sv–Timlin (3). HRs–Texas, Elster (7). Seattle, Griffey Jr 2 (39).

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Chicago 001 006 000–7 11 0
Pittsburgh 002 101 000–4 10 1
Tapani, Mulholland (6), Beck (9) and Servais; Peters, Dessens (6), Tabaka (6), Rincon (8), Loiselle (9) and Kendall. W–Tapani, 10-6. L–Peters, 3-7. Sv–Beck (25). HR–Pittsburgh, T.Ward (3).

Atlanta 002 110 000–4 8 1
New York 002 000 000–2 6 1
Smoltz, Ligtenberg (9) and J.Lopez; B.J.Jones, Pulsipher (6), Tam (9) and Piazza. W–Smoltz, 7-2. L–B.J.Jones, 7-6. Sv–Ligtenberg (11). HR–Atlanta, Ch.Jones (24).

Philadelphia 000 000 022–4 11 1
Milwaukee 000 000 011–2 8 0
Beech, Gomes (7), M.Leiter (9) and Lieberthal; Juden, M.Myers (8), C.Fox (8) and Hughes. W–Gomes, 8-3. L–Juden, 7-8. Sv–M.Leiter (19). HR–Milwaukee, Burnitz (20).

Montreal 001 100 000–2 6 3
Florida 100 000 000–1 5 0
Hermanson, Urbina (9) and Widger; L.Hernandez, Stanifer (9) and Zaun. W–Hermanson, 7-7. L–L.Hernandez, 7-6. Sv–Urbina (23).

Cincinnati 110 002 300–7 12 0
St. Louis 010 300 000–4 8 1
Parris, Sullivan (6), Graves (9) and Taubensee; Stottlemyre, Frascatore (8) and Pagnozzi. W–Sullivan, 2-4. L–Stottlemyre, 9-8. Sv–Graves (1). HRs–Cincinnati, Taubensee (7), D.Young (9). St. Louis, Gant (16), Gaetti (8).

San Diego 214 100 000–8 10 0
Colorado 300 040 000–7 14 0
Langston, S.Sanders (5), Miceli (8), Hoffman (9) and Leyritz, C.Hernandez (5); Kile, Wainhouse (4), Munoz (6), Leskanic (7), McElroy (9) and Manwaring, J.Reed (8). W–S.Sanders, 1-0. L–Kile, 6-12. Sv–Hoffman (28). HRs–San Diego, Caminiti (16), Joyner (7), Leyritz (2). Colorado, Castilla (26), Helton (15).

San Francisco 000 000 100–1 6 1
Los Angeles 000 010 001–2 5 0
Gardner, S.Reed (7), Johnstone (9), Nen (9) and B.Johnson; Park, Osuna (7), Radinsky (8) and C.Johnson. W–Radinsky, 4-4. L–Johnstone, 2-5. HR–Los Angeles, C.Johnson (12).

Houston 004 000 000–4 12 1
Arizona 100 000 100–2 5 0
Reynolds, D.Harry (8), B.Wagner (8) and Eusebio; Daal, W.Banks (8), Small (8) and Fabregas. W–Reynolds, 12-5. L–Daal, 3-5. Sv–B.Wagner (22). HRs–Houston, De.Bell (13), Alou (21). Arizona, Klassen (3).

SPORTS *in brief*

Joseph signs with Maple Leafs

TORONTO (AP) – Curtis Joseph joined the Toronto Maple Leafs yesterday, the third high-priced NHL goalie to sign this week.

Joseph signed a four-year contract, reportedly for $24 million. He appeared headed to the New York Rangers earlier in the week, but turned down a four-year, $22m offer.

New York then turned back to Mike Richter, who re-signed yesterday, a four-year, $21.8m contract. Earlier, John Vanbiesbrouck signed with Philadelphia.

Joseph, 31, was 29-31-9 with a 2.63 goals-against average and eight shutouts last season for Edmonton.

Israeli swimmer shines in Moscow

In just two days, 15-year-old swimmer Adi Bichman moved up on the podium from bronze to silver in the Youth Olympics in Moscow.

Swimming in the 400 meters individual medley yesterday, her favorite event, Bichman captured the silver medal and set a new national time of 4:56:50. The previous record, set in 1993, was 4:58:80.

A day earlier Bichman, a product of Wingate Institute's program for gifted swimmers, picked up a bronze medal while shattering the national record twice in the 400m freestyle event.

In the heats, she set a new record of 4:21:40 for the third best result of the morning races. She improved her performance further in the final to 4:21:14, seizing the bronze medal.

Bichman cut 3:97 seconds off the previous record of 4:25:11 by Michal Amin which had stood for nine years.

In other results yesterday, Vered Borochovsky also scored a new national record, finishing fourth in the 100m butterfly in a time of 1:03:00. The earlier record of 1:03:18 had belonged to Timea Toth since 1992.

Heather Chait

France considers bid for 2008 Olympics

PARIS (AP) — Flushed with sporting pride after its World Cup success, France is considering a bid to host the 2008 summer Olympic Games.

The IOC will select the venue for the 2008 games in 2001. Candidates so far include Toronto, Osaka, Japan, Istanbul, Seville, Spain, and Buenos Aires.

Boxing fans riot at welterweight fight

READING (AP) — A riot involving rival fans of England's Geoff McCreesh and Wales' Michael Smyth delayed Tuesday night's British welterweight title fight between the sixth and seventh rounds for more than five minutes.

McCreesh won the title by knockout 71 seconds into the seventh round, when chairs were thrown and bare knuckle brawling broke out among an estimated 50 to 60 people. Police made four arrests.

The Reading riot was the worst crowd violence at a British boxing bout since the WBC super-middleweight title fight between Nigel Benn and Juan Carlos Gimenez at Birmingham's National Exhibition Center in 1994.

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CITROEN ZX FURIO, 1.81 full service history, metallic burgundy, manual, air condition, alarm, power steering, three years old, $ 7500. Contact Tony, Tel. 03-524-9171, 09-955-8828. [793546]

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97 WHITE CAVALIER, new, 5000 km., A/C, power locks, 10 CD changer radio/cassette. TEL. 08-926-3503. [793677]

VEHICLES
General

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VEHICLES
Jerusalem

PASSPORT

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VEHICLES
Jerusalem

GMC SAFARI 1994, mint condition, automatic transmission, power windows & steering, low mileage, double A/C, automatic alarm, 2 tone metallic, fully loaded, stereo. Tel. 052-521-242. [793691]

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MITSUBISHI SUPER LANCER GLI, 1995, automatic, fully equipped, 50,000 km, 1st owner, metallic green, stereo system, excellent condition. Tel. 050-240-977, 02-652-3735. [17377]

MITSUBISHI GLX L 300 mini van 1994, 8 passenger, AC, alarm, radio, power windows, service book maintenance, good condition. Tel. 02-651-1655. [793572]

NISSAN SUNNY, 1995, manual transmission, 37,000 km, like new, 1st owner, red. Tel. 02-652-3735, 050-240-977. [17378]

SUBARU LEGACY STATION, 1995, automatic, fully equipped, ABS, air bags, excellent condition, 61,000 km, 1st owner, priced for fast sale. Tel. 02-652-3735, 050-240-977. [17376]

SUBARU GRAND LEONE LX, 1994, 1.6 liter, first hand, excellent condition, 73,000 km., AC, radiotape, central locking, alarm and immobilizer, also available passport to passport. Tel. 02-993-3825. [793180]

TOYOTA COROLLA GLI, 1996, 1.6 liters, automatic, 2 air bags, AC, alarm, radio/tape, fully equipped, excellent condition. Tel. 02-993-4475. [793077]

VEHICLES
Jerusalem

UNRESTRICTED

RENAULT CLIO 1993, , white, automatic, 55,000 km, excellent condition, test. Tel. 02-566-5840.

MAZDA MPV 1994, metallic green, electric sun roof, 8 passenger, fully loaded, automatic, priced for quick sale. Tel. 02-993-1580, Tel. 050-316-715. [17364]

MONTEGO STATION, 1988, 7 seater, manual gear, first hand, 105,000 km, AC. Tel. 02-673-5969 (NS), Tel. 02-539-5638, Tel. 02-531-5640.

VW GOLF CL, 1996, 1.8 liters, 2 air bags, ABS, AC, AM-FM cassette, power windows / steering. Dark red. Great condition. 52,000 km. Tel. 02-563-4970. [743529]

VEHICLES
Tel Aviv

PASSPORT

HYUNDAI ACCENT LS, 1996, manual, royal blue, 50,000 km., AC, alarm, radio tape, air bag, power steering. Great condition. Tel. 03-510-5744. [792325]

1994, NISSAN SUNNY SL, manual, excellent condition, alarm, air conditioning, 75,000 km. Tel. 052-200-458. [793605]

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GOLF GTI, 1990 auto power/windows/steering/doors/air/radio/cassette/alloy wheels. $4900. Mark, Tel. 052-214-262, 03-522-0621 Any-day-time. [793301]

VEHICLES
Tel Aviv

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VEHICLES
Sharon Area

PASSPORT

OPPORTUNITY, 1996, NEON CHRYSLER, full equipped, first hand, 35.000km, like new, (also for tourist) direct from owner. Tel. 052-924-457 [793406]

1995 - 96 OLDSMOBILE Delta royal V.6. Metallic dark green, tan leather, automatic climate control, every extra including CD player, telephone, 37,000 km., priced to sell now. Colin Tel. 09-742-9517, Tel. 052-423-327. [793115]

1996 HYUNDAI, LANTRA 1.6 metallic gray, manual, 41,000, p/steering, AC, 2 air bags, radio tape alarm. 1st had must sell $8,900. Colin Tel. 052-423-327, Tel. 09-742-9517. [793184]

1998 HYUNDAI LANOS (new body). automatic, p/steering, AC, 2 air bags, radio tape + alarm, white, 1.800 km. only, as new, must sell now. Colin, Tel. 09-742-9517, Tel. 052-423-327. [793114]

DIPLOMAT SELLS 1995, Honda Accord 2.2, automatic, p/steering, AC, air bags, sun roof, metallic blue, 30,000 km., 1st hand, like new, tax free or tax paid. Must sell now. Colin, Tel. 052-423-327, Tel. 09-742-9517. [793185]

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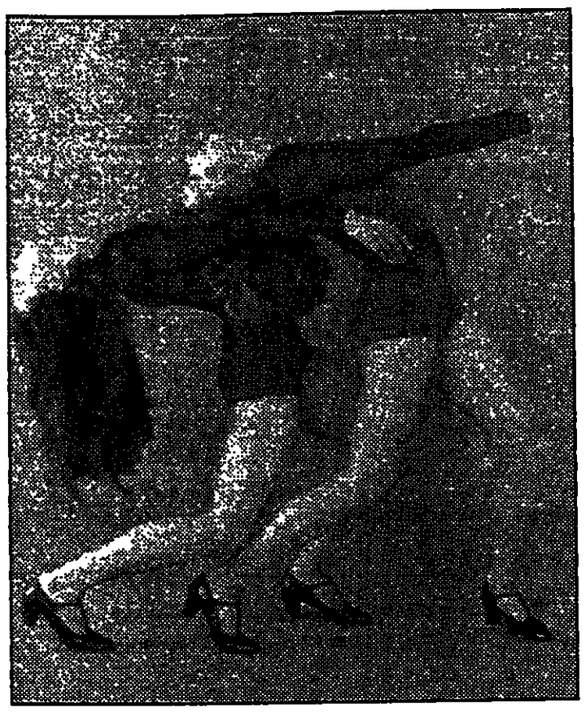
CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AIZENSTADT

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra opens its end-of-season Beethoven Festival, under the baton of music director Zubin Mehta, Saturday at 9 p.m. at Tel Aviv's Mann Auditorium, with Jonathan Gilad playing the first piano concerto and Mehta leading his orchestra in the composer's first and fifth symphonies.

Zvi Meniker and David Shemer present a mini harpsichord festival at the Targ Center in Ein Kerem, Jerusalem tomorrow at noon, playing music by Rameau and Couperin and a special two keyboard version of Bach's third Brandenburg concerto.

The Israel Vocal Arts Institute's summer program continues tonight at 7 p.m., when extraordinary bass Paolo Montarsolo presents a master class at the Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv. On Saturday at 9 p.m. at Tel Aviv's Enav Center, the young opera singers who participate in the program present a concert of arias.



The Israel Ballet's new dance 'Tangoneon' portrays life as a tango.

DANCE

HELEN KAYE

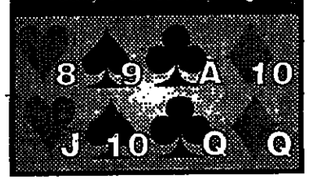
The Israel Ballet has a new dance, *Tangoneon*, created for it by Brazilian-born dancer/choreographer Antonio Gomes, presenting life as a tango. This isn't as daft as it sounds, because in its original incarnation tango was the dance of the downtrodden and the working classes.It moved into high society only during the thirties. The multi-talented Gomes also designed the set, the costumes and the lighting. Tonight at the Bat Yam municipal auditorium at 8:30 p.m.

Ohad Naharin has created a dance for children with the Batsheva Ensemble called *Za'chacha* a portmanteau word for "chacha for za'atutim" or little ones. Set to a chacha/trance/Strauss waltz soundtrack, the dance mixes new and old into fresh patterns. Recommended for kids from seven and up. At the Nahariya Auditorium at 6 p.m.

William Louther and local dance pioneer and Israel Prize winner Hassia Levy-Agron go back a long way together. Because of their admiration for one another, the eminent African-American choreographer and dancer came here every summer for years to give workshops and master classes at the Rubin Academy and the Jerusalem Dance Theater headed by Tamara Mielnik. Louther died last May and JDT's memorial for him includes a video of him and Galina Panov in Louther's *Obsession* (1997), excerpts from his *Elijah* and *Hermit Songs* created for Louther by Alvin Ailey. Tomorrow at noon at Gerard Behar.

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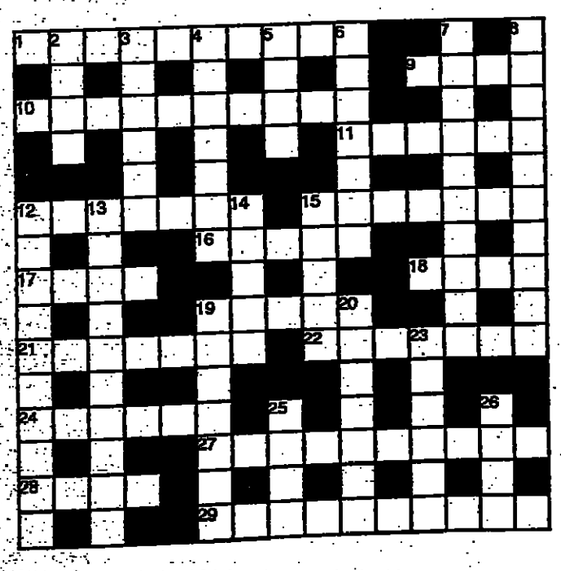
CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

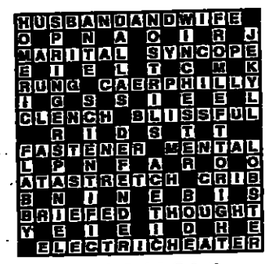
1 Important question of the elder offspring? (5,5)
9 Famous Italian seen back in Florence (4)
10 Fan of sickness benefit? (10)
11 Call for superior judgment (6)
12 Reported to be held at gun-point (7)
15 Old master of the Exchange Rate Mechanism in turn-about (7)
16 Ventured again to take father out (5)
17 He may supply arresting information (4)
18 Play group (4)
19 Submits to a diver's complaint (5)
21 Briefly, I draw no new conclusion (2,1,4)
22 A change in dates offered as an alternative (7)
24 Avoided potential duel with editor (6)
27 Oddly comic place associated with criminal (10)
28 Stuff to study for exam (4)
29 Long leases needed for a place to live in America (3,7)

DOWN

2 Being awkward, mean to get the last word (4)
3 Dull-witted, note, after punishing bouts (6)
4 I will shortly become accustomed to being maltreated (3-4)
5 Place to view, we hear (4)
6 Grenade thrown in temper (7)
7 Check one's speed (10)
8 You may get it in the neck when you detain the boss (6-4)
12 Shared secret belief (10)
13 Informal speech (10)
14 Old-fashioned but popular with the boys (5)
15 Top scorer's off-drive (5)
19 Boring tool commercial interrupts fight (7)
20 Outstanding winter feature (7)
23 A time for high-handedness (6)
25 Experts break the case (4)
26 Name expert seen about skin problem (4)



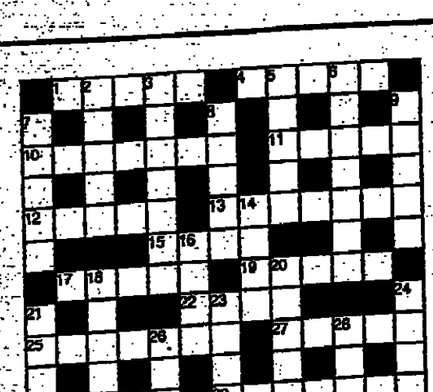
SOLUTIONS



Saturday's Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Ciao, 5 Chow, 7 Martial, 8 Truthful, 10 Newt, 12 Scut, 14 Truncate, 16 Accredit, 17 Loom, 18 Very, 19 Timidity, 22 Necktie, 23 Twig, 24 Moon.

DOWN: 1 Chat, 2 Omit, 3 Profited, 4 Pill, 5 Clinical, 6 Wept, 9 Recycle, 11 Without, 13 Tarrying, 15 Ultimate, 18 Vast, 19 Tuck, 20 Deem, 21 Yarn.



QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Ruin (5)
4 Modify (5)
10 Figure (7)
11 Topic (5)
12 Whole (5)
13 Of stars (7)
15 Comfort (4)
17 Brahmanist (5)
19 Gulf (5)
22 Part (4)
25 Widespread (7)
27 Squander (5)
29 Nurse (5)
30 Old soldier (7)
31 Pale (5)
32 Meditate (5)

DOWN

2 Send back (5)
3 Surrounded (7)
5 Bishop's hat (5)
6 Sewing implements (7)
7 Combine (5)
8 Category (5)
9 Oyster-gem (5)
14 Duck (4)
16 Distinctive air (4)
18 Spell at wicket (7)
20 Enchant (7)
21 Representative (5)
23 Oily fruit (5)
24 Intended (5)
26 Verse (5)
28 Temptress (5)

TV

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

6:30 News Flash
6:31 News in Arabic
6:45 Good Morning Israel

■ EDUCATIONAL TV (11)

8:00 Animation
10:10 Hot Shots
10:35 Deepwater Haven
11:00 Time Exposures
11:25 Hot Science
11:50 Plotlus
12:00 Vacation Time
12:45 Animation
14:30 Star Trek: Deep Space 9
15:15 Voyage through the Solar System

■ CHANNEL 1 (11)

15:30 X-Men
15:55 Cinemazap on Thursday: Pinnochio
16:59 New Evening
17:34 Pinnochio – cont.
18:10 Time for Language
18:15 News in English
ARABIC PROGRAMS
18:30 Encounter
19:00 News
HEBREW PROGRAMS
19:30 Moment in Life
19:55 Cosby – No So Ez
20:00 News
20:10 Talk of the Day
20:25 Are You Being Served?
21:00 News
21:35 Old Jaffa Nights – live broadcast of the now traditional summer outing to Old Jaffa, featuring some of the country's top musical line-ups
23:00 Up to 30
23:30 News
00:00 Time For Language

■ CHANNEL 2 (22)

5:45 Today's programs
5:55 On the Edge of the Shell
6:00 Animation
6:30 The Rainbow Children
9:00 Rivka Michaeli
9:55 Rich Man, Poor Man
10:50 Scooby Doo
11:18 Dumb and Dumber Animated
11:40 Enchanted Voyage
12:25 Genie and the Captain
13:00 My Secret Identity
13:30 Home and Away
14:00 Calculated Risk
14:30 Sesame Street
15:00 Major Dad
15:28 Roseanne
16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
16:50 Different Driving
17:00 Five with Rafi Reshef
17:30 Fresh Prince of Bel-Air
18:00 Danielle Steel - Kaleidoscope
19:00 Buffy The Vampire Slayer
20:00 News
20:30 Shemesh
21:03 Bat Yam - New York – return of the popular off-beat soap about a family from Bat Yam. This third season begins with a chronic case of mistaken identity
21:46 Bird on a Wire (1990) – a man on the run from the Mafia teams up with an old flame, and keeps on running. With Mel Gibson and Goldie Hawn
00:00 News
00:10 Screen Test
00:57 Praying to the Same God
1:55 Storytellers Festival
2:41 New York Under Cover
3:25 Concert
3:53 On the Edge of the Shell

■ JORDAN TV (31) (unconfirmed)

15:00 Holy Koran
15:10 Classic animation
15:30 Australian Birds
16:30 Dreaming in Blue Waters
17:00 Treasure Seekers
18:00 Burnt Bridge
19:00 Le Journal
19:15 French Series
19:30 News Headlines
19:35 My Big Brother Jake
20:00 Great Romances
20:40 Dr Quinn
21:15 The Oprah Winfrey Show
22:00 News in English
22:30 Movie
00:00 Comedy series

■ MIDDLE EAST TV (24/27)

14:30 Body Electric
15:00 Basic Training
15:30 The 700 Club
16:00 Larry King
17:00 Popeye
17:45 Sonic the Hedgehog
18:10 Jack Hanna
18:35 It Takes Two to Love
19:00 World of Entertainment
19:30 World News Tonight (Arabic)
20:00 What Would You Do?
20:25 Movie: In Your Wildest Dreams
22:05 Homicide
23:00 The 700 Club
23:30 CNN News

■ ITV 3 (33)

16:00 Animation
16:15 Amores
17:00 Panorama
17:30 From Day To Day
18:00 Wiseman of the Generations
19:00 Arabic News
19:30 Russian News
20:00 Profiles
20:30 Telekassel
21:00 News
21:30 All of Me (1984) – a second-rate guru tries to move the soul of a recently deceased millionairess to the body of a beautiful young woman, but the spirit settles inside a young lawyer instead. With Steve Martin and Lily Tomlin
23:00 Criminal Justice

■ ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Boogie's Diner
16:00 Summer Studio
16:45 Local Pop
17:00 Marianne
17:30 Moliere
18:00 Destinos
18:30 Art Workshop
19:00 Masterpieces of the Art World
19:30 New Evening
20:00 Vis-a-vis
20:30 Medicine Demystified
21:00 Cinescopus – Dancing in the Street
22:00 Star Trek - Deep Space 9
22:45 Europe's Heritage

CABLE

■ CHANNEL 3

7:00 EITV: Adventure Parks
8:00 Celeste
9:00 One Life to Live
9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt)
10:30 Days of Our Lives
11:15 Angels Don't Cry
12:00 Love Boat
12:45 Hart to Hart
13:30 The John Larroquette Show
14:00 Bewitched
14:25 I Dream of Jeannie
14:50 Days of Our Lives
15:35 Judge Judy
16:00 Angels Don't Cry
16:45 One Life to Live
17:30 The Other Half
18:00 Trivia Game (rpt)
18:30 Local Broadcast
19:00 The Young and the Restless
19:40 Beverly Hills 90210
20:25 Hercules
21:10 Xena, the Warrior Princess
22:00 Suddenly Susan
22:30 Seinfeld
23:00 Rickl Lake
23:45 Sentinel
00:30 Babylon 5
1:20 Love Boat
2:10 Spy Game
3:00 Lawless

■ MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Mi Hijo Vive (Argentina, 1995) – another Latin melodrama, this time about a woman who cannot get over the loss of her son
12:45 Seeing Stars: with Tom Hanks
13:15 The Vagabond Lover (1929) – musical love story between an orchestra conductor and the daughter of a dotty widow. With Rudy Vallee and Sally Blane
14:30 Playing Dangerous II (1995) – terrorists plan to steal US government secrets through an artificial intelligence computer but must first overcome an 11-year-old whiz-kid
16:10 New in the Cinema
16:25 A Holiday for Love (1996) – a businessman arrives at a small town in order to close down the local factory and falls in love with a local girl who works in the factory. With Tim Matheson and Melissa Gilbert
18:05 To Love, Honor and Deceive (1997) – a faithful wife refuses to believe her husband and son died in an accident and sets out to discover what really happened
19:35 Renegade
20:25 One of Her Own (1994) – a policewoman is raped by one of her comrades, but when she finally gets up the nerve to file a complaint, she is fired. With Lori Loughlin and Greg Evigan. Directed by Armand Mastroianni
22:00 A Family Thing (1996) – drama on issues of race and family. A middle aged tractor salesman discovers his real mother was a black woman and travels to Chicago to meet his half-brother. With Robert Duvall and James Earl Jones
23:50 Coyote Run (1994) – an alcoholic small town sheriff decides to fight back against a big drug baron and thus exorcise some of his Vietnam demons, but learns a little too late that he has endangered those dear to him. Directed by Shimon Dotan. With Michael Paré and Peter Greene
1:30 Woman of Desire (1993) – erotic thriller with Bo Derek, Jeff Fahey, Steven Bauer and Robert Mitchum
3:05 Unlimited Revenge (1994, 102 mins.) – a young doctor taken away from his Indian mother as a child searches for her only to find she has been murdered. With Lou Diamond Philips

■ CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons
8:05 Daisy and Dandelion
8:20 Sharky and George
8:35 Sinbad the Sailor Fantasy
9:00 The Smurfs
9:35 The Never Ending Story
10:00 Oz Kids
10:30 Bruno the Kid
10:50 Space Goots
11:20 The Phoenix and the Flying Carpet
11:55 Student Bodies
12:30 Police Academy
13:25 Power Rangers
13:45 Helen and the Boys
14:10 Chquititas
15:00 Daisy and Dandelion
15:20 Sharky and George
15:40 Sinbad the Sailor Fantasy
16:05 The Smurfs
16:30 Children's Channel City
16:45 Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries
17:05 Children's Channel City
17:20 Student Bodies
17:45 Children's Channel City
18:00 Police Academy
18:45 Children's Channel City
19:00 The Wonderful World of Augustus the Storyteller
19:30 Family Matters
19:55 Married with Children
20:20 The Fresh Prince of Bel Air
20:40 Full House
21:10 Beverly Hills 90210

■ SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Greetings (1969) – light satire of the late 50dies counter-culture, as seen through the lives of three young men in New York's Greenwich Village. With Robert De Niro. Directed by Brian De Palma
23:30 Othello (1952, 89 mins.) – Orson Welles's hypnotic adaptation of Shakespeare's tragedy. With Orson Welles, Micheal MacLiammoir and Suzanne Cloutier

■ CHANNEL 8

6:00 Open University
8:00 Endangered Species
8:30 Wildlife Adventures
9:20 Mysteries Magic Miracles (rpt)
9:45 StillHere – modern dance by the late Bill T. Jones
10:50 Brahams: Ein Deutches Requiem – choral work
11:45 Unknown Chaplin: Hidden Treasures
12:10 Arctic (rpt)
13:10 Beyond 2000 (rpt)
13:40 Wild Film: That's Life
14:05 Emily Dickenson
15:05 Edgar Allan Poe
16:00 Wild Horizons: Living Desert Coast (rpt)
16:30 Travel Magazine
17:00 Open University: Africa
18:00 Open University: The Art of Conducting
19:05 Arctic, part 9
20:05 Beyond 2000
20:30 Wild Film: On Screen Off Screen
21:00 Hotel California – the story of the prestigious Beverly Hills Hotel which is host to the most sparkling stars around
22:00 Bette Davis – a portrait of the glamorous star who made over 60 films
22:50 Wild Horizons: Okalenokee
23:20 Travel Magazine
23:45 Open University: Weekend Warrior
00:15 Open University: Dietrich Fischer Dieskau
1:15 Open University: Spain: Meeting of Three Religions

■ STAR WORLD (18/15)

6:00 Hawaiian Cooks
6:30 Some Mother Do 'Ave 'Em
7:00 Bergerac
8:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show
9:00 Santa Barbara
10:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
10:30 Nanny and the Professor
11:00 Some Mother Do 'Ave 'Em
11:30 Hawaiian Cooks
12:00 Eeld the Cat
12:30 Small Wonder
13:00 Batman
13:30 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures
14:00 The Simpsons
14:30 The Wonder Years
15:00 Heartbeat
16:00 Touch of Frost: Deep Water – mystery movie
18:00 Santa Barbara
19:00 The Bold and the Beautiful
19:30 The Simpsons
20:00 Heartbeat
21:00 Touch of Frost
23:00 Fire
00:00 Bergerac
1:00 Aerobics Oz Style
1:30 Terry Toons
2:00 The Incredible Hulk
2:30 Jack Hanna's Animal Adventures
3:00 Pierre Franey's Cooking in France
3:30 Aerobics Oz Style
4:30 Small Wonder
5:00 Batman
5:30 The Wonder Years

■ BBC WORLD (13/14)

News on the hour
6:30 Asia Today
6:45 World Business Report
7:30 Decisive Weapons: T-34 Queen of Tanks
8:30 Future Fantastic: Under a Purple Sky (rpt)
9:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
10:30 How Buildings Learn
11:30 Decisive Weapons
12:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
13:30 The Travel Show
14:00 The World Today
15:30 Wild World: The Living Planet
16:00 World News and Business Report
16:30 The World Today
17:30 Jeremy Clarkson's Extreme Machines (rpt)
18:30 Hard Talk
19:30 IBR Midweek
20:00 The World Today
21:30 Hard Talk (rpt)
22:30 Panorama
23:00 World News and Business Report
23:30 Earth Report: Singapore
00:10 Europe Direct
1:00 World News and Business Report
1:15 Asia Today (rpt)
2:05 USA Direct
2:30 Decisive Weapons
3:30 Future Fantastic

■ CNN INTERNATIONAL (12)

News throughout the day
6:15 American Edition
6:30 World Report
7:00 CNN This Morning
7:30 Insight (rpt)
8:00 CNN This Morning
8:30 Moneyline (rpt)
9:00 CNN This Morning
9:30 World Sport
10:00 CNN This Morning
10:30 Showbiz Today
11:00 Larry King (rpt)
12:30 World Sport
13:30 American Edition
13:45 World Report: As They See It
14:30 Science and Technology
15:15 News & Business Asia
16:30 CNN Newsroom
17:30 World Sport
18:30 Travel Guide
19:00 Larry King Live
20:45 American Edition
21:30 World Business Today
22:30 Q&A with Fitz Khan
23:00 News Europe
23:30 Insight (rpt)
00:00 World Business Today
0:30 World Sport
1:00 World View
1:30 Moneyline
2:30 Showbiz Today
3:15 Asian Edition
3:30 Q&A (rpt)

■ CHANNEL 5 (05)

6:30 Bodies in Motion
16:00 Bodies in Motion
16:30 MLS – quarter finals
18:00 World of Speed and Beauty
19:00 Xtreme Sports
19:30 The Survivors
20:00 Candid Camera
20:30 Sporting Profiles
21:30 Figure Skating
22:00 Boxing
23:00 Game by Order

■ EUROSPORT (15/16)

9:30 Sailing
10:00 Rowing
11:00 Cycling
13:00 Motorsports
14:30 Mountain Bike
15:00 Cycling
16:10 Live Cycling – Tour de France
18:30 Soccer – Best of World Cup
20:30 Live Athletics
23:30 Cycling
1:30 Motorsports

RADIO

■ VOICE OF MUSIC

6:05 Samuel Wally: Violin Concerto (Wallfisch / Parley of Instruments / Holman); Beethoven: Minuets Woo7 (Vienna Bella Musica Ens); Reicha: Variations and Fantasia on a Theme from Le Nozze di Figaro op 51
7:07 Selleri: Triple Concerto for Oboe, Violin, Cello and Orchestra; Chabrier: Suite Pastorale; Milhaud: Duo Concertante for Clarinet and Piano
8:05 D'Indy: Tableaux de Voyage (Wurttemberg PO / Nopre); Mendelssohn: Concerto for 2 Pianos and Orchestra
9:05 Respighi: Gli Uccelli (Atlanta SO / Lane); Haydn: Concerto for Violin, Piano and Orchestra; Beethoven: Septet op 20 (Members of Berlin PO); Chopin: Piano Concerto no 1 (Demidenko / Philharmonia / Schiff); Verdi: March from Rigoletto
12:00 Noon with Gideon Hod
14:05 Encore
16:00 Brahms: Piano Trio op 101 (Fontana); Schumann: String Quartet no 1 op 41 no 1 (Orlando); Chausson: Concerto for Piano, Violin, and String Quartet op 21; Prokofiev: Sonata for 2 Violins op 56; Ibert: Songs of Don Quixote
18:00 New CDs – Handel: Concerto Grosso op 6 no 4; Brahms: Violin Concerto op 77; Schubert: 3 Songs from Die Winterreise; Beethoven: Piano Concerto no 5 "Jupiter"
20:05 From the Recording Studio – Vera Weidman, violin / Emanuel Karsovsky, piano. Mozart: Sonata no 18 in G major K301; Menachem Tzur: Sonata for Violin and Piano; Schubert: Fantasia in C major (posthumous)
21:00 Clouds, Celebrations and Sirens
23:00 Art of the Song

PRIME TIME TV

	1	2	3	4	5	6
19:30	Moment in Life		Beverly Hills 90210	Renegade	Family Matters	
20:00	Cosby	News			Married With Children	Beyond 2000
20:30	News		Hercules	One of Her Own	The Fresh Prince of Bel Air	
21:00	Talk of the Day	Shemesh			Full House	Wild Film: On Screen Off Screen
21:30	Are You Being Served		Xena, the Warrior Princess		Beverly Hills 90210	Hotel California
22:00	News	Bat Yam – New York		A Family Thing	Greetings	Bette Davis
22:30	Old Jaffa Nights	Bird on a Wire	Suddenly Susan			
23:00	Up to 30		Seinfeld			Wild Horizons
			Rickl Lake			

MOVIES

JERUSALEM
G.G. GIL Jerusalem Mall (Malha) ☎ 6788448 Grease-=Mouse Hunt 11:30, 2, 4:45, 7:15 • Blues Brothers 2000 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30 • The Big Lebowski 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • The Magic Sword *(English dialogue)* 7:15, 10 • The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45 • City of Angels 7:15, 10 • Red Corner 10 • Kissing A Fool 7:15, 10 • Mercury Rising 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Deep Impact 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 10 • The Patriot 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10
JERUSALEM THEATER On connait la chanson 7 -=The Spanish Prisoner 7, 9:3
RAV CHEN 1-7 ☎ 6792799 Credit Card Reservations ☎ 6794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Talpiot Mimic 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 • Armageddon 11 a.m., 1:45, 4:30, 7, 9:45 • Titanic 11, 5, 8:45 • The Horse Whisperer 6:45, 9:45 • Wild Things 7:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer -=Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 • Flubber 11 a.m., 4:45 • Mr. Magoo 11 a.m. • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1., 5
MEVASSERET ZION G.G. GIL ☎ 5700888 As Good As It Gets 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Titanic 4:30, 8:30 **SMADAR** ☎ 5618168 He Got Game 11
TEL AVIV
DIZENGOFF Spanish Prisoner 11 a.m., 1, 3:15, 5:30, 8, 10 • On connait la chanson 11, 3:15, 5:30, 8, 10 • Spice World 1 • Missing A Fool 11 a.m., 3:15, 5:30, 8, 10 • Western 1 **GAT** ☎6967888 The Horse Whisperer 3:15, 6:30, 9:45 **GLOBUS** ☎6081130/1 Red Corner 11:30 a.m., 2 • Grease-=The Patriot 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Blues Brothers 2000 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45, 7:15, 10 • City of Angels 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, 7:30 • Mercury Rising 7:30, 10; • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • The Big Lebowski 11:30 a.m., 2, 4:45; 7:15, 10 **G.G. HOD 1-4** ☎ 5226226 Hod Passage, 101 Dizengoff St. Live Flesh-=Deep Impact 5, 7:30, 10 • Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 • City of Angels-=The Patriot Fri. 10, 12:30 a.m. • Blues Brothers 2000 Sat. 7:15, 10; Thu. Sun-Wed. 4:45, 7:15,10 • The Big Lebowski Fri. 9:45, 12:30 a.m. **LEV** ☎5288288 He Got Game 11 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Kundun 11:30 a.m., 5, 10 • Good Will Hunting 11 a.m., 1:45, 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Sweet Hereafter 2, 7:30, 10 • Go Now 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 7:30 • Night Train 5 **LEV AVIV** ☎6417148 He Got Game 11 a.m., 2, 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Kundun 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10 • Welcome to the Doll House 11:15, 2:30, 5, 7:30, 10 • Sweet Hereafter 11:30 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:15, 10 • Brassed Off 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • The Thief 2:45 **LIMOR** 6968084 Shall We Dance 6, 9:45 • Empire of the Senses 8
G.G. PE'ER ☎5442141 Red Corner 7:15, 10 • City of Angels 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Grease 7:30, 10 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5 • The Big Lebowski 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Superboy 11:30 a.m., 5 • The Magic Sword *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 **RAV-CHEN** ☎ 5282288 Dizengoff Circle Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 2:30, 5 • Mimic 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • The Wedding Singer 11 a.m., 2:30, 5, 7:30 • As Good As It Gets 2, 4:30, 7:15 9:45 • Primary Colors 9:45 • Armageddon 11:30, 4:15, 7, 9:45, 12:30 a.m. • Wild Things 2:30, 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* -=Lady and the Tramp-=Mr. Magoo *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m. • Flubber 11 a.m. **RAV-OR 1-5** ☎ 5102874 Opera House Jackie Brown-=Boogie Nights 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Great Expectations • Boogie Nights 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Titanic 5:15, 9
TEL AVIV MUSEUM The Hanging Garden 5, 8, 10
HAIFA
CINEMATHEQUE Amistad 7 • Piccolo Diavolo 9:45 **MORIAH** ☎6242477 Kundun 7:30, 9:30 • Live Flesh-=On connait la chanson 7:15, 9:15 **ORI** ☎6500056 Mercury Rising 11:30 a.m., 7:15, 10 • Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 • The Patriot-=Grease 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 4:45, 7:15 • City of Angels 4:45, 7:15, 10 • Red Corner 7:15, 10 • Power Rangers 11 a.m. • The Big Lebowski 4:30, 7:15, 10 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 4:45 **PANORAMA** ☎8382020 Spanish Prisoner 9:30 • City of Angels 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Mouse Hunt-=The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 4:30, 7 • The Magic Sword *(English dialogue)* 9:30 • Mr. Magoo 11 a.m. **RAV-CHEN** ☎6500055 Wild Things 5, 7, 9:30 **RAV-GAT 1-2** ☎ 8674311 Primary Colors F4:15, 7, 9:30 • Titanic 4:45, 8:30 **RAV-MOR 1-7** ☎ 8416898 Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:15, 9:30 • Great Expectations 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:15, 9:30 • Armageddon 11:30 a.m., 4:30, 6:45, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m. • The Wedding Singer 11 a.m., 1, 5, 7:15, 9:30 • The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 • Good Will Hunting 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 5 • Mr. Magoo 11 a.m., 1, 5 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 4:15 • Wild Things 7:15, 9:30 **RAV-OR 1-3** ☎ 8246553 The Horse Whisperer 6, 9:15 • Great Expectations 7 • Good Will Hunting 4:30, 9:30 • Flubber-=Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m. • Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:30 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 1, 5
AFULA
RAV CHEN The Horse Whisperer 9:15 • Armageddon 7, 9:45 • Good Will Hunting 7, 9:30 • Flubber-=Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5, 7:15
ARAD
STAR ☎9950904 Great Expectations 7:30, 10 • Mr Magoo 5:30 • Picture Perfect -= Mimic 5:30, 7:30, 10
ASHDOD
G.G. GIL ☎ 8647202 Deep Impact -=Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • City of Angels 7:30, 10 • The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m, 5 • Mercury Rising-=Mimic 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 **ORI** ☎8568073 The Patriot-=Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Grease 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 **RAV CHEN** ☎8661120 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Great Expectations 11 a.m. • The Wedding Singer 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m., 4:45, 8:30 • As Good As It Gets 9:45 • Armageddon 11 a.m., 4:15, 7, 9:45 • Wild Things 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 4:45
ASHKELON
G.G. GIL ☎ 6729977 Mercury Rising 10 • City of Angels 7:30, 10 • Grease 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • The Patriot 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 **RAV CHEN** ☎ 6711221 Good Will Hunting 7:15, 9:45 • The Horse Whisperer 6:45, 9:45 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* -=The Wedding Singer11 a.m., 5 • Great Expectations 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Armageddon 7, 9:45 • Shall We Dance 9:45 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Flubber 11 a.m., 4:45
BAT YAM
RAV CHEN ☎5531077 The Wedding Singer 11 a.m., 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m. • Armageddon 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:45 • The Patriot 7:30, 9:45 • Mouse Hunt 11 a.m., 5, 7:30 • City of Angels 7:30, 9:45 • Mimic 5, 7:30, 9:45 • Boogie Nights 9:45 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* -=The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* F11 a.m., 1, 5
BEERSHEBA
G.G. GIL ☎6440771 Mercury Rising 5, 7:30, 10 • Red Corner 4:45, 7:15, 10 • As Good As It Gets-=Good Will Hunting 4:30, 7:15, 10 • The Wedding Singer -=Great Expectations 5, 7:30, 10 **G.G. ORI** ☎6103111 Kissing the Fool 10 • The Patriot 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • Grease 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10 • City of Angels 7:30, 10 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 **RAV-NEGEV 1-4** ☎6235278 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • Titanic 11 a.m. • Armageddon 11 a.m., 4:45, 7, 9:45 • Wild Things 7:30, 9:45 • Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 9:45 • Mulan *(English dialogue)* -=Flubber 11 a.m., 5 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* 4:45
EILAT
EILAT CINEMA Armageddon 4, 7, 10 • Good Will Hunting 10 • The Horse Whisperer 7, 10 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5, 7 **GIL** ☎6340182 Grease 11:30 a.m. • Mercury Rising 10 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • The Patriot 5, 7:30, 10 • City of Angels 7:30, 10 • The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5
HADERA
LEV ☎8343555 Armageddon 7:15, 10 • Mouse Hunt 11 a.m., 4, 6 • He Got Game 5, 7:15, 10 • Good Will Hunting F10 • City of Angels 7:45, 10 • The Magic Sword 11 a.m., 5 • Mulan 11 a.m., 5, 7:30
HERZLIYA
COLONY☎6902866 Primary Colors 5, 7:30 **DANIEL** ☎ 9544044 The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 **STAR** ☎ 9589088 Mouse Hunt 11 a.m., 3:45, 5:30 • Armageddon 11 a.m., 4:30, 7:15, 10 • Great Expectations 7:30, 10 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 4, 6 • Mulan *(English dialogue)* 8, 10
HOD HASHARON
GIL ☎ 7408591 Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30 • Grease 11:30 a.m., 5, 10 • Armageddon 7, 10 • Great Expectations 10 • The Horse Whisperer 6:30, 9:45 • The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30
HOLON
STAR As Good As It Gets 7:30, 10 • Great Expectations 7:30, 10 • Titanic 11 a.m., 5, 9 • Anastasia*(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 5 • Mimic 11:30 a.m., 5 • Wild Things 11:30 a.m., 5, 7:30, 10
KARMIEL
CINEMA ☎9882521 Good Will Hunting 7, 9:30 • The Horse Whisperer 9:15 • Armageddon 7, 9:45 • Anastasia *(Hebrew dialogue)* -=Flubber 11 a.m., 5 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 5, 7:15
KFAR SAVA
G.G. GIL ☎7677370 Armageddon 11:30 a.m., 4, 7, 10 • The Patriot-=Grease-=Kissing A Fool 11:30 a.m.,2, 5, 7:30, 10 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 2, 5, • City of Angels 7:30, 10 • Mulan *(English dialogue)* 7:30, 10 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 5 • The Big Lebowski 7:15, 10 • The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 2, 5
KIRYAT BIALIK
G.G. GIL The Patriot -=He Got Game-=Mercury Rising 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Deep Impact-=Kissing A Fool-=Grease 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • The Magic Sword *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11 a.m., 4:30, 7, 9:30 • Mouse Hunt 11 a.m., 6:30 • As Good As It Gets-=City of Angels 7, 9:30 • Good Will Hunting 7, 9:30 • Flubber 11 a.m., 4:30
KIRYAT SHMONA
G.G. GIL ☎6905080 Armageddon -=Kissing A Fool 7, 9:30 • Mulan *(Hebrew dialogue)* 11:30 a.m., 4, 7:30 • Mouse Hunt 11:30 a.m., 4:30, 9:30 • The Magic Sword 11:30 a.m., 4:30
UPPER NAZARETH
G.G GIL ☎6561332 Good Will Hunting 7, 9:45 • Grease-=

Inside

British Open: Blowing in the wind
Page 18

Sports Editors
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

'Israel Night' at Shea planned

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK – Israel will be at bat at Shea Stadium on August 4 when the New York Mets hold "Israel 50 Night" at the ball park in Queens, NY.

Shmuel Sisso, the consul general in New York, will toss out the first ball at the game between the Mets and the San Francisco Giants.

"He's working on his fast ball and slider," a staffer at the consulate joked yesterday.

The team each year sets aside a week for "international night" for various ethnic communities. This year's Jewish night has become "Israel 50," which is being coordinated with Sisso's office and the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York.

Dudu Fisher will give a pregame concert in which he will sing *Hatikvah* and the *Star Spangled Banner*. Israeli tourism videos will be shown on "Diamondvision," a huge screen on the scoreboard.

'Mr Liverpool' resigns

LIVERPOOL (AP) – Ronnie Moran, who earned the nickname "Mr Liverpool" after nearly 50 years with the Premier League team, announced his retirement yesterday.

Moran joined Liverpool in July 1949 and played 379 games for the club before joining the coaching staff.

Griffey slams pair to reach 39

SEATTLE (AP) – Ken Griffey Jr. hit his AL-leading 38th and 39th homers – his 1,500th and 1,501st career hits – as the Seattle Mariners beat the Texas Rangers 6-3 on Tuesday.

With his first two-homer game since June 2, Griffey moved within one homer of St. Louis' Mark McGwire and four ahead of Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs.

Griffey, homering for the first time in four games, hit a 370-foot homer to right field in the third inning off John Burkett (5-10) to give Seattle a 2-0 lead.

Texas' Juan Gonzalez, who leads the majors with 101 RBIs, did not drive in a run for the sixth straight game.

Athletics 6, Angels 2

Kenny Rogers pitched six scoreless innings before leaving with soreness in his left hamstring as host Oakland beat Anaheim for the fifth straight time.

Rogers (9-3), who allowed four hits and walked three, was visited on the mound during the sixth inning by a trainer and manager Art Howe. He got out of the inning, leaving runners on second and third, but decided not to return.

Devil Rays 5, Red Sox 4

Miguel Cairo's ninth-inning single drove in the winning run as host Tampa Bay ended its 11-game losing streak.

Tigers 8, Royals 3

Justin Thompson finally won a home game and Tony Clark hit a three-run homer.

Luis Gonzalez and Deivi Cruz also homered and Damion Easley added a two-run double for the Tigers.

Yankees 7, Indians 1

Andy Pettitte plunked Yankee-killer Jim Thome on the arm, then breezed through the rest of host Cleveland's lineup for a six-hitter.

With a split in the playoff-like two-game series, the Yankees were able to improve to 66-21 and keep pace with the 1902 Pittsburgh Pirates for the best start this century.

Orioles 11, Blue Jays 5

Chris Hoiles hit a grand slam to cap a six-run first inning that lifted host Baltimore to its sixth straight victory.

Rafael Palmeiro, B.J. Surhoff and Joe Carter added solo homers for the Orioles, who completed their most successful homestand in five years.

White Sox 8, Twins 5

Frank Thomas hit a three-run homer with two outs in the bottom of the ninth, capping a four-run ninth inning to lift Chicago.

Thomas' 15th homer, off Rick Aguilera (3-6), came after Chicago's bullpen had allowed the Twins to score two runs in the top of the ninth for a 5-4 lead.

Albert Belle homered for the seventh time in six games for the White Sox, who have won four of five.

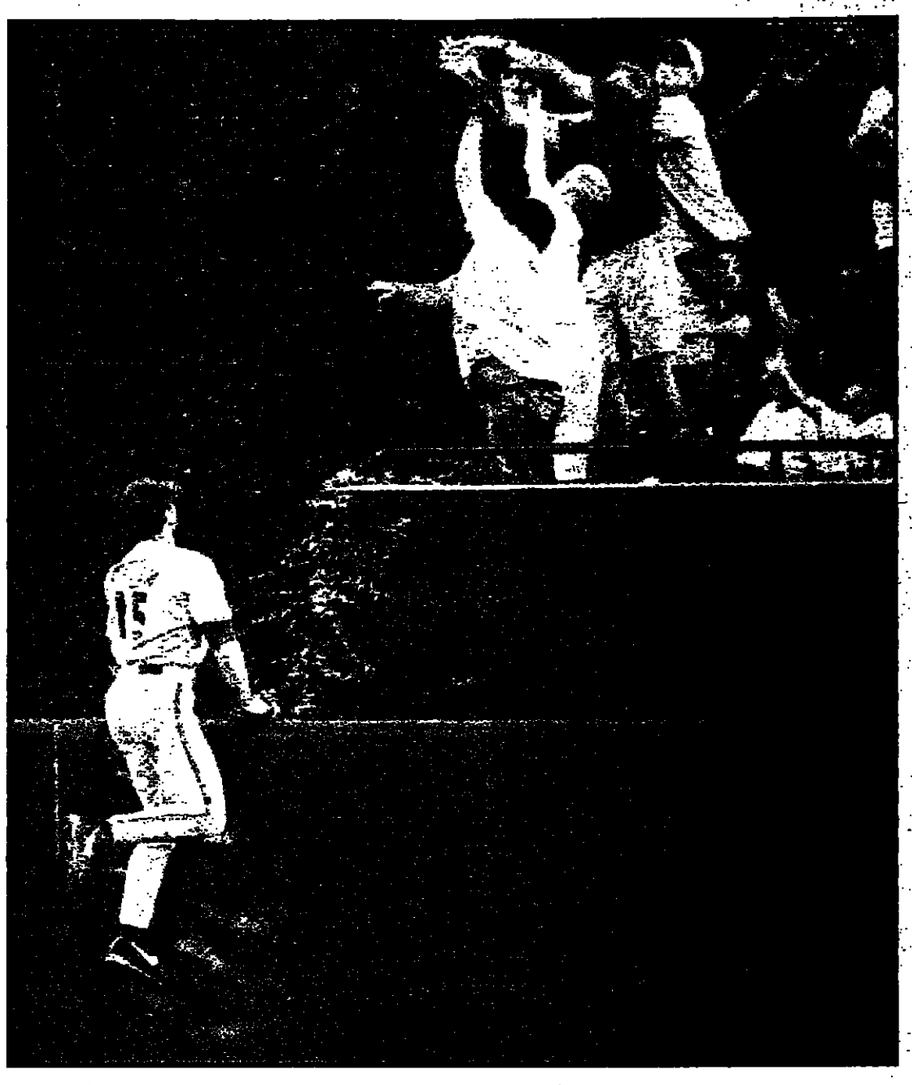
NATIONAL LEAGUE

Braves 4, Mets 2

John Smoltz revived Atlanta's rotation with eight strong innings, and also hit a go-ahead single as the Braves broke a three-game losing streak with an away victory.

Chipper Jones hit a solo home run and an RBI double – misjudged by new Mets left fielder Todd Hundley – helping Atlanta avoid matching its longest skid of the season.

See BASEBALL, Page 18



FLYBY – Toronto OF Shawn Green watches as Chris Hoiles' 1st-inning grand slam home run disappears into the Camden Yards bleachers. Baltimore won 11-5. (Reuters)

Israel at highest FIFA ranking

Brazil retain top spot; France jump 15 to No. 2

By CHRIS WALKER, SEAN PALMER and agencies

Israel leaped eight places to 39th, their highest-ever placement in the FIFA world rankings, announced yesterday.

In the previous rankings, two months ago, the national team was ranked 47th. The team's fortunes have steadily improved, from a low ranking of 71 in September, 1993.

Brazil remained on top of the rankings despite its 3-0 loss to France in the World Cup final.

The French, meanwhile, moved up 15 places to No. 2.

FIFA, soccer's world governing body, listed Brazil as the No. 1 team for the 52nd consecutive month with 73.84 points.

The new rankings reflect the results of the World Cup, with France moving from No. 17 to No. 2 with 70.18, Germany dropping one place to No. 3 and Croatia – surprise World Cup semifinalists – jumping from No. 19 to No. 4.

The biggest mover in the top 10 were the Netherlands, who moved 17 places from No. 22 into a tie with Italy at No. 8.

England's loss to Argentina in the second round had a major impact on their world ranking, which dropped from No. 5 to No. 10.

The United States, who finished last among the 32 World Cup teams, dropped eight places to No.19.

The biggest drop was recorded by Bolivia, who fell 21 places to No. 54.

Teams	Points	Previous
1. Brazil	73.84	1
2. France	70.18	17
3. Germany	68.65	2
4. Croatia	66.62	19
5. Argentina	65.14	6
6. Czech Republic	64.90	3
7. Yugoslavia	64.17	8
8. Netherlands	64.07	25
8. Italy	64.07	14
10. England	62.66	5
11. Norway	62.26	7
12. Mexico	62.04	4
13. Romania	60.31	22
14. Spain	60.21	15
15. Chile	59.30	9
16. Morocco	58.69	13
17. Colombia	57.90	10
18. Denmark	57.86	27
19. United States	57.06	11
20. Egypt	56.83	17
21. Korea Republic	55.34	20
22. Japan	55.24	12
23. Austria	55.06	31
24. Zambia	54.98	23
25. Tunisia	54.97	21
26. Paraguay	54.43	29
27. South Africa	53.34	24
28. Russia	53.27	16
29. Jamaica	52.90	30
30. Sweden	52.71	28
31. Belgium	52.21	36
32. Slovakia	51.35	40
33. Saudi Arabia	50.91	34
34. Bulgaria	49.90	35
35. Uruguay	49.82	38
36. Scotland	48.85	41
37. Iran	48.37	42
38. Australia	48.32	32
39. Israel	48.25	47
40. Cameroon	48.12	49
41. Ecuador	47.41	26
42. Portugal	46.10	39
43. Peru	46.07	37
44. Georgia	45.95	52
45. Cote d'Ivoire	45.69	44
46. Thailand	45.41	50
47. Ireland	44.82	46
48. Poland	44.66	54
49. China PR	44.45	51
50. Greece	43.95	58

Nat'l cricketers to Europe

The national cricket team plans to leave tonight to take part in the European Cricket Championships in The Hague, Netherlands, from July 17-25. Israel will play five games against France, Germany, Italy, Gibraltar and a team to be determined.

"The team which should provide the stiffest competition is Gibraltar," said Stanley Perlman, manager.

The team is captained by Alan Moss, with David Silver as vice-captain. For further details, check *israel@cricket.org* on the internet.

Joe Hoffman

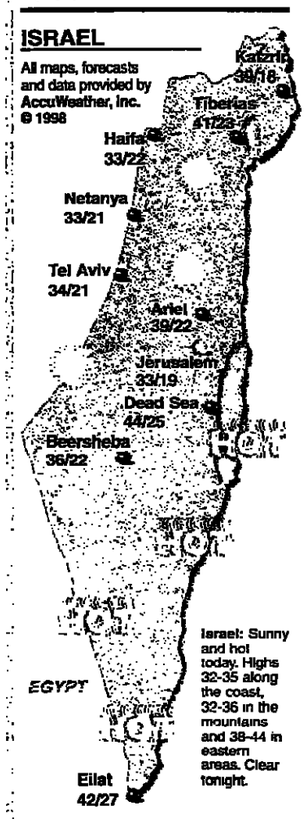
AIR CANADA
Noon lunch at Fisherman's Wharf?
AIR CANADA will get you there in time
Lv-TLV 1:30 a.m Arv-SF 11:30 a.m. same day

THE WEATHER

http://www.accuweather.com

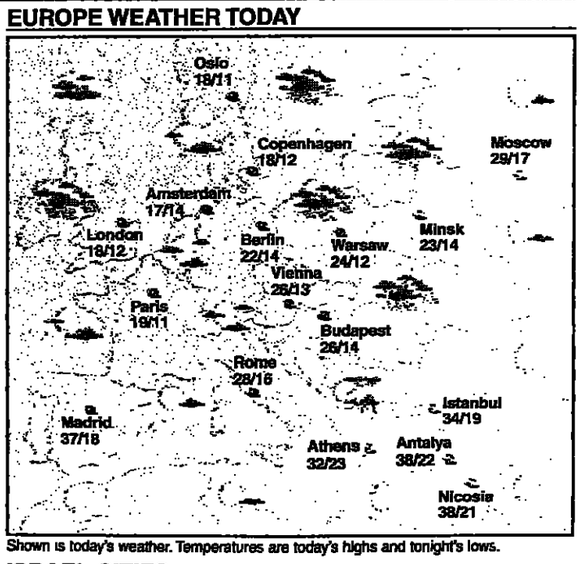
ISRAEL

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Israel: Sunny and hot today. Highs 32-35 along the coast, 32-36 in the mountains and 38-44 in eastern areas. Clear tonight.

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today High/Low/W C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Friday High/Low/W C/F	Friday Low/W C/F	Saturday High/Low/W C/F	Saturday Low/W C/F	Sunday High/Low/W C/F	Sunday Low/W C/F
Ariel	39/102	22/71/s	39/102	22/71/s	41/106	24/75/pc	41/106	24/75/pc
Beersheba	36/97	22/71/s	36/97	22/71/s	37/98	22/71/pc	37/98	23/73/pc
Dead Sea	44/111	25/77/s	44/111	26/79/s	44/111	26/79/pc	43/109	26/79/pc
Eilat	42/107	27/80/s	42/107	26/79/s	42/107	28/82/pc	43/109	28/82/pc
Haifa	33/91	22/71/s	33/91	23/73/s	33/91	23/73/pc	34/93	23/73/pc
Jerusalem	33/91	19/66/s	33/91	20/68/s	34/93	20/68/pc	34/93	20/68/pc
Katzrin	39/102	18/54/s	39/102	20/68/s	41/106	20/68/pc	39/102	20/68/pc
Netanya	33/91	21/70/s	33/91	23/73/s	34/93	23/73/pc	34/93	23/73/pc
Tel Aviv	34/93	21/70/s	33/91	21/70/s	34/93	23/73/pc	34/93	23/73/pc
Tiberias	41/106	23/73/s	40/104	25/77/s	41/106	25/77/pc	41/106	26/79/pc

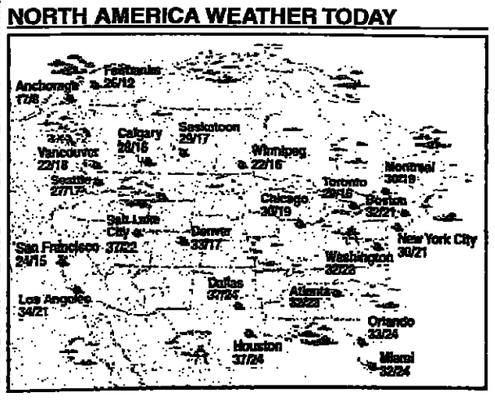
Weather (W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Last July 16 New July 23 First July 31 Full Aug 8

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today High/Low/W C/F	Today Low/W C/F	Friday High/Low/W C/F	Friday Low/W C/F	Saturday High/Low/W C/F	Saturday Low/W C/F
Amsterdam	17/62	14/57/r	17/62	10/50/r	21/70	11/52/pc
Beijing	33/91	24/75/pc	30/86	25/77/r	32/89	25/77/pc
Berlin	22/71	14/57/c	23/73	14/57/r	24/75	16/61/pc
Brussels	17/62	13/55/r	17/62	9/48/sh	22/71	12/53/pc
Cairo	38/100	22/71/s	38/100	22/71/s	36/97	22/71/s
Chicago	30/86	19/66/pc	29/84	18/64/pc	29/84	18/64/pc
Frankfurt	21/70	13/55/c	22/71	14/57/r	24/75	16/61/pc
Hong Kong	32/89	27/80/pc	33/91	27/80/pc	32/89	27/80/pc
Johannesburg	22/71	4/39/s	24/75	4/39/s	18/64	2/35/pc
London	18/64	12/53/sh	18/64	9/48/c	22/71	12/53/pc
Los Angeles	34/93	21/70/s	35/95	20/68/pc	35/95	20/68/pc
Madrid	37/98	18/64/s	38/100	19/66/s	38/100	21/70/sh
Mexico City	26/79	13/55/sh	25/77	13/55/c	25/77	13/55/pc
Montreal	30/86	18/64/sh	26/79	16/61/pc	24/75	13/55/pc
Moscow	29/84	17/62/s	32/89	21/70/c	28/82	16/61/r
New York	30/86	21/70/pc	29/84	20/68/r	29/84	20/68/pc
Paris	19/66	11/52/c	17/62	11/52/pc	23/73	12/53/pc
Prague	19/66	12/53/r	23/73	12/53/c	26/79	15/59/pc
Rio de Janeiro	25/77	19/66/pc	26/79	19/66/pc	26/79	18/64/pc
Rome	28/82	16/61/s	28/82	17/62/s	30/86	20/68/pc
Sydney	16/61	8/46/s	16/61	12/53/pc	18/64	11/52/sh
Tokyo	25/77	20/68/r	25/77	20/68/r	26/82	21/70/s
Toronto	29/84	16/61/sh	27/80	13/55/pc	26/79	13/55/pc
Vienna	26/79	13/55/s	27/80	17/62/pc	28/82	18/64/pc
Warsaw	24/75	12/53/pc	25/77	14/57/pc	25/77	16/61/pc
Washington	32/89	23/73/c	31/88	21/70/pc	30/86	20/68/pc
Zurich	22/71	13/55/c	25/77	13/55/pc	26/79	16/61/pc

NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



Second-ever Aussie takes yellow jersey after marathon stage

CHOLET (Reuters) – Stuart O'Grady became only the second Australian to take the Tour de France leader's yellow jersey yesterday after the marathon 252-kms fourth stage from Plouay to Cholet.

The 24-year-old from Adelaide, who was three seconds behind overnight leader Bo Hamburger of Denmark in the overall standings, won two intermediate sprints in the longest stage in this year's Tour to earn a total bonus of 16 seconds.

Despite being held up by a fall shortly before the final sprint, O'Grady finished on time to take the yellow jersey, 16 years after Phil Anderson, the only other Australian to have led the world's most famous cycling race.

"This is the moment I have dreamt of ever since I started cycling. It is so special," said O'Grady, who won two bronze medals at the Atlanta Olympics and was team pursuit world champion.

"Phil Anderson was the only one so far to hold the yellow jersey. Now there are two Australians," he said. "Phil was a hero of mine, an inspiration to take up cycling."

Dutchman Jeroen Blijlevens won the sprint finish, snatching his fourth stage victory in the Tour. The TVM rider, who held off Italian Nicola Minali and Czech Jan Svorada, the points standings leader, has now won one stage in every one of the four Tours he has entered.

But the day belonged to O'Grady, a GAN teammate of Britain Chris Boardman who was forced to abandon in the second stage because of a bad crash.

O'Grady's team director Roger Legeay had decided that the team should help him win the bonus sprints of the day and the plan worked perfectly.

The Australian's chances to take over from Hamburger only appeared in jeopardy when two Frenchmen, veteran Jacky Durand and Damien Nazon, broke away. The duo led the way for 117 kms before being caught only 20 kms from the finish in Cholet.

A serious crash less than one kilometer from the finish, again involving Italian sprint supremo Mario Cipollini, might also have ruined the Australian's hopes.

"But I was back in the bunch quickly," said a relieved O'Grady, who holds an eleven-second lead over Hamburger.



FLYING DUTCHMAN – The Netherlands Jeroen Blijlevens looks up after crossing the finishing line to win the fourth stage of the Tour de France yesterday. (Reuters)

"We were very sad for Chris, now we're very happy for Stuart," said Legeay, who signed O'Grady for his GAN team at the world championships three years ago.

"He is like a son to me, since he came in France as a 21-year-old, coming from 23,000 kms away," he added.

Thursday's fifth stage leads the riders from Cholet to Chateauroux over 228.5 kms.

Festina officials held in doping case

The team director and doctor of the Festina cycling team were held for questioning by police yesterday following the arrest last week of a team masseur charged with smuggling doping substances.

Team chief Bruno Roussel, doctor Eric Rijckaert and a third, unidentified, Festina team member arrived at the police headquarters in Cholet shortly after the finish of the fourth stage.

Police in Lille, in charge of the investigation, later said the men were being held for questioning. Under French law, they can be held for 48 hours.

Police officers later raided the Festina team hotel. No explanation was given.

Team masseur Willy Voet was charged last week with smuggling doping substances into France after some 400 bottles of products, including steroids, were found in his car at the border between Belgium and France The Festina team denied being involved in the case but Roussel had said he wanted to be heard by the police as quickly as possible to set the record straight.

'He's dead! He's dead!'

Fears for Ronaldo's life follow convulsions

PARIS (Reuters) – Cries of "he's dead, he's dead' filled the Brazil team hotel after Ronaldo was found having a convulsive fit on Sunday, the hotel director said in a radio interview yesterday.

"There was general alarm with yells and shouts which woke up all the players, who were in the middle of their siesta," hotel director Paul Chevalier said.

The 21-year old striker said later he had feared for his life during the brief fit. Ronaldo reportedly swallowed his tongue during the convulsions.

He was taken to hospital for checks and later joined the Brazil squad at the Stade de France. He was controversially included in the team for the final, after initially being omitted, but failed to produce anything like his normal form.

Normally when the Brazilians left for their matches there was a party atmosphere with singing and music, but the mood before Sunday's final was very different.

"When they left the hotel at six or 6:30 for the Stade de France there was complete silence on the bus and we who knew them personally understood at that moment that there was no cohesion and they had lost the cup," Chevalier said.

Symcox's 5-wicket haul lifts S Africa

CHESTER-LE-STREET (Reuters) – Veteran off spinner Pat Symcox claimed his first five-wicket haul (for 60) for his country to help South Africa bowl Durham out for 286 and secure a first innings lead of 76 runs on the second day of the three day match at Riverside yesterday.

Symcox, 38, claimed four of the last five wickets to fall in an attacking spell of seven overs that saw Durham slump from 230 for five to 286 all out.

The home side bounced back in the final hour with Melvyn Betts grabbing two quick wickets to send the tourists stumbling to 49 for four but, with an overall lead of 125 and six wickets still intact, they remain in control of the match.